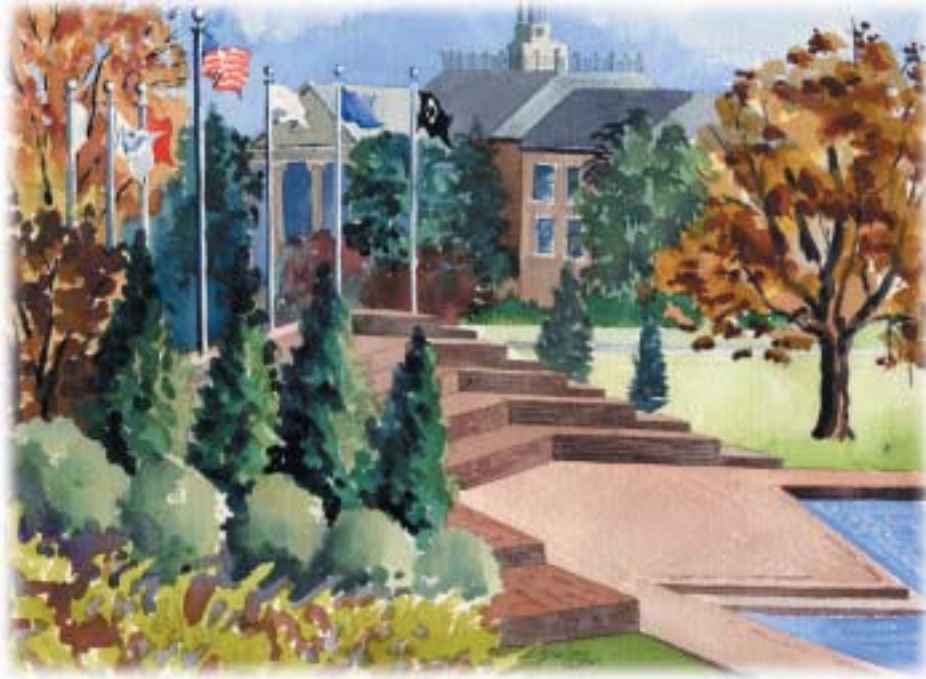


Community Handbook



City of Fairfax, Virginia

Web edition, July 2004

A publication of the City of Fairfax

Produced by the Community Relations Office
City Hall, 10455 Armstrong Street,
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www.fairfaxva.gov

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Call **703-385-7855** for **Large Print
Recorded**

A

Adopt-a-Spot. Citizens, civic groups, businesses, service groups and other members of the Fairfax community can help keep the city clean by adopting a spot to keep clean. Participants must pledge to clean a particular area within the city limits at least four times a year for at least two years. The city will recognize this effort by placing a sign identifying the participants at the site.

The city must approve the site. Citizens may choose a spot or receive site recommendations from the city. For information, call **703-385-7995**.

Adopt-A-Truck. *See: Home Improvement Programs and Services.*

Adoption. For information on adopting children, call Fairfax County Family Services, 12011 Government Center Parkway; **703-324-7639**; www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

To file for private adoption, contact the Fairfax County Circuit Court, Fairfax County Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road; **703-691-7320**, then press 3, 1, 0.

AIDS/HIV Testing. Free, anonymous testing is available at the Joseph Willard Health Center, 3750 Old Lee Highway; **703-246-7100**.

See also: Health Department, Health Services.

Airports. The city is located near two major airports (www.metwashairports.com).

Washington Dulles International Airport, located about 16 miles west of the city, is accessible from I-66 and the Dulles Toll Road; **703-572-2700**.

Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport is about 17 miles east of the city and is accessible from I-395, I-66 and the Metrorail system; **703-417-8000**.

See also: CUE Bus System; Metro.

Alarm Ordinance. *See: Security Alarm Ordinance.*

Alcoholism. *See: Substance Abuse.*

Ambulance. For emergency medical service and ambulance service, call **911** (voice/TTY). Emergency ambulance service is provided at no cost to city residents by the Fire Department.

Amphitheater. On the west lawn of City Hall, the Veterans Am-

phitheater is host to a variety of outdoor concerts and festivities, including the Summer Concert Series, which features performances by the City of Fairfax Band Thursday evenings during the summer.

See also: Concerts.

Animals. Dogs age four months and older must be vaccinated against rabies and licensed. Licenses, available in the Treasurer's Office in City Hall, are due by January 31 each year; the cost is \$5 for a spayed or neutered dog and \$10 for a fertile dog. Owners must present the rabies vaccination certification and, if applicable, proof that the animal has been altered. For information, call **703-385-7900**.

In the city, the number of dogs allowed at a single residence is based on lot size. One or two dogs may be licensed at a residence regardless of lot size. Owners must have at least 7,500 square feet to house three dogs. For four dogs, residents must have a lot size of 12,500 square feet or more. No more than four dogs may live at a single address in the city.

The city also has a leash law and a "pooper-scooper law" for dogs, enforced by the animal control officer.

Dogs found roaming at large by an animal control officer are confined at Town and Country Animal Hospital, 9780 Lee Highway, for their owners to claim. Dogs are held for seven to 12 days, after which they are put up for adoption or euthanized, depending on the amount of space available for strays at the hospital. Those who suspect their dog has been picked up by the animal control officer should call City of Fairfax Police Department at **703-385-7924**. To find out what animals are available for adoption from the city, call **703-385-7924**.

Cats must be vaccinated against rabies but are not licensed.

Cats and wild animals are collected only if injured or if they pose a threat to humans or other domesticated animals.

The City of Fairfax has an ordinance prohibiting exotic or wild animals.

For information about animals in the city or to report violations of animal laws, call the police department at **703-385-7924**. Animal wardens enforce laws dealing with domestic and wild animals, investigate complaints of cruelty to animals, quarantine animals and assist in the removal of stray animals from streets and public areas. If the animal control officer

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is not available, police will investigate bite cases and barking dog complaints.

The city's Department of Public Works will pick up dead animals on most public city roads; call **703-385-7980**.

Owners are responsible for the disposal of their deceased animals by having the body cremated, buried or otherwise disposed of in accordance with Health Department laws; for information, call the animal control officer at **703-385-7924**. The Fairfax County Animal Shelter, 4500 West Ox Road, accepts small deceased animals for cremation; **703-830-1100**.

Arborist. To obtain names of local certified arborists, call the Middle Atlantic Chapter International Society of Arboriculture at **703-753-0499**; www.mac-isa.org.

Architectural Review. *See: Building Alterations, Inspections and Permits.*

Art League. The Fairfax Art League (FAL) is comprised of local artists whose works are displayed and sold at the art league's gallery on the second floor of Old Town Hall. FAL art also is displayed and sold in City Hall. Membership is open to all artists. For information, call **703-352-ARTS**; www.fairfaxartleague.org.

Assessments. *See: Real Estate Assessments; Personal Property Tax; Taxes.*

Assisted Living Residences. For a listing of area facilities, call the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging at **703-324-5411**; www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

See also: Hospitals, Health Facilities.

Athletic Groups. Fairfax County maintains lists of adult leagues for softball, flag football, volleyball, lacrosse, rugby, basketball and soccer; most leagues have men's, women's and co-ed teams. For information, call the Fairfax County Community and Recreation Services at **703-324-5533**. Residents also may join the Fairfax County Church Softball Cooperative League. For information, call **703-913-9594**; www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Children can participate in sports with a number of organizations.

See also: Children.

Attorney, Commonwealth's. *See: Commonwealth's Attorney.*

Attorneys. Residents can locate

an attorney through a number of resources.

The *Fairfax Bar Lawyer Referral and Information Service* has a list of local attorneys. For a \$40 fee, the service will set up a 30-minute consultation with an attorney who is a member of the Fairfax Bar Association; **703-246-3780**; www.fairfaxbar.org.

Legal Services of Northern Virginia provides income-eligible city residents with legal assistance in civil matters and domestic cases; **703-246-4500**.

Seniors may receive legal assistance from *ElderLaw*; **703-532-3733**.

The Women's Center, a non-profit private organization in Vienna, also maintains a list of attorneys. The Women's Center is located at 133 Park Street NE, Vienna; **703-281-2657**; www.thewomenscenter.org.

In criminal cases, the court can provide a court-appointed attorney at no cost to a defendant if the defendant cannot afford one.

Automobiles. Within 30 days of moving into the City of Fairfax or obtaining a new vehicle, new residents must obtain a Virginia driver's license, title and registration (or change their addresses on existing ones) with the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV); for information, call **(800) 435-5137** or visit www.dmv.state.va.us.

Within 60 days of moving into the city or obtaining a new vehicle, residents must register their vehicles in City Hall for personal property taxes and must obtain a city vehicle decal.

Accidents — Automobile accidents must be reported to the city police department; **703-385-7924**. Based on the amount of damage and the result of the investigation, the police may or may not file a report. When reports are made, vehicle owners, drivers or insurance companies may obtain a copy of the accident report from police records; call **703-385-7950**.

Child safety seats — The City of Fairfax Police recommend all children younger than age 12, when riding in a vehicle, be properly restrained in the vehicle's rear seat using safety seats and restraint devices (seat belts, etc.) approved for their ages and sizes. Additionally, Virginia law requires children younger than age 6 to be in safety seats. Safety seats should not be installed in front seats of vehicles with air bags; however, some vehicles with front seat air bags provide shut-

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off switches. For information on child safety seat laws, call **703-385-7946**. For assistance with correctly installing child safety seats, call the City of Fairfax Police Department at **703-279-7999**. Some insurance companies loan child safety seats on a short-term basis.

Commercial parking in residential zones — Residents may park one commercial vehicle not exceeding 9,000 pounds in their private driveway as long as the vehicle does not advertise a business located at the residence where it is parked. No commercial vehicles may be parked on public or private streets in a residential zone. For information, call 703-385-7820.

Decals — All vehicles garaged in the City of Fairfax must display a city registration decal. Decals are sold in the Treasurer's Office in City Hall and expire October 5 each year. The fees are \$25 for cars and trucks and \$15 for motorcycles. Prices are prorated after April 1. Military personnel living in the city whose legal residence is not Virginia are exempt from paying the fee but should obtain and display a decal. For information, call the Treasurer's Office at **703-385-7900**.

Citizens may make confidential reports of decal violations on the Decal Violation Hotline at **703-385-7800**.

Driver's license, license plates, registration, title — State license plates, driver's licenses, registrations and titles are available from the DMV; **(800) 435-5137**. You may order from the DMV a special license plate featuring the city seal, which may be personalized. The nearest full-service DMV Customer Service Center is at Fair Oaks Mall, located west of the city at the intersection of Route 50 and I-66.

The City of Fairfax offers limited DMV services from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays (excluding holidays); **703-385-7880**. The DMV office in City Hall does not issue state drivers licenses or identification cards. These services are limited to:

- Titles: original, substitute, replacement, maintenance
- Registration: original, renewal, transfer, re-issue, surrender
- Special or personalized license plate requests
- Trip or overload permits
- Original handicapped parking placards
- Voter registration applications
- Driver transcript requests

- Title and registration transactions for dealers
- Name and address changes that do not involve issuance of a drivers license or ID card

Emission inspection — All vehicles built after 1979 must have an emissions inspection every two years. Proof is required for vehicle registration. Inspections are performed by state-approved commercial service stations, which usually advertise the service with a sign visible from the street.

Handicapped parking decals, license plates. See: *Disability Services*.

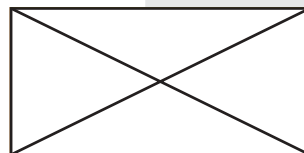
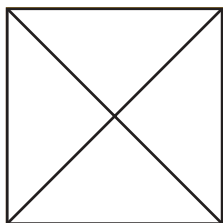
Inoperable motor vehicles — Inoperable motor vehicles may be stored only at authorized motor vehicle repair establishments in a commercial or industrial district. The city defines an inoperable motor vehicle as one that is mechanically inoperable or legally inoperable — lacking the proper license, registration and stickers. For information, call the City of Fairfax Police Department at **703-385-7924**. To report an inoperable vehicle in the city, call **703-385-7820**.

Insurance requirements — Virginia residents are required by law to either provide the DMV with proof of insurance or pay the DMV an uninsured motorist fee. The fee does not provide insurance; it only allows for registration and operation of the vehicle.

License plates — The City of Fairfax has a special Virginia license plate available through the DMV; for information, call **703-385-7880**. The DMV gives the city \$15 for each license plate purchased, which the city has designated to fund historic resources.

Oversized vehicles — All oversized or overweight vehicles traveling into or through the city must obtain in advance a hauling permit from the Department of Public Works; call **703-385-7810**. Permits are available for a one-time trip or for multiple trips during the same calendar year.

Personal property tax — Citizens are required to register with the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office within 60 days of a vehicle relocating to the city. Vehicles registered after 60 days are subject to a penalty of 10 percent of the tax. Citizens also must notify the Commissioner's Office within 60 days of any changes in the location or status of their personal property. The tax rate is set annually



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by the City Council. The Commissioner of the Revenue's Office annually sends out personal property return notices, and citizens must respond only if there has been a change in the location or status of the personal property. Personal property taxes are prorated. Forms are supplied by the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office in City Hall; **703-385-7882**. The commonwealth currently is phasing out personal property taxes.

Radar detectors — It is illegal to use radar detection devices in Virginia. However, a detector may be in a vehicle if the device has no power source and no one in the vehicle can access it.

Safety inspection — Every motor vehicle registered in Virginia must pass an annual routine safety inspection, and inspection stickers must be displayed inside the front windshield. Proof is required for vehicle registration. Inspections are performed by state-approved commercial service stations, which usually advertise the service with a sign visible from the street.

Seat belts — Virginia law requires the driver of a vehicle and the front seat passengers to use lap belts and shoulder harnesses. However, the City of Fairfax Police Department recommends all passengers in a vehicle be restrained with lap belts and shoulder harnesses, and passengers younger than age 12 be properly restrained in the rear seat of the vehicle. Children age 4 and younger must be in an approved child safety seat.

See also: Courts; DMV; Hauling Permits; Personal Property Tax.

B

Babe Ruth Baseball. See: Children.

Band. The City of Fairfax Band (www.fairfaxband.org) involves the talents of more than 60 volunteer musicians from all walks of life. The band performs at a number of events, including municipal events, and presents a regular summer and winter concert series. Any musician with high school or college band experience is eligible. Rehearsals are held Wednesdays in the Band Room at Fairfax High School, 3500 Old Lee Highway. For information, call **703-757-0220**.

Banners. Banners



for special events sponsored by non-profit organizations in the city may be displayed at the intersections at North Street and Route 123 and at Route 236 and West Street. There are installation and rental fees, and city permits are required. For information and permit applications, call the Department of Public Works in City Hall at **703-385-7810**.

Bicycle Trails. Marked bicycle trails interconnect the city's schools, parks, office buildings and shopping centers. For a map of city bicycle trails, call the Department of Parks and Recreation at **703-385-7858**.

Bicycles. Although registration of bicycles is not required, the City of Fairfax Police Department recommends residents record the bicycle serial number at police headquarters. If the bikes are lost or stolen, registration will aid in their recovery. For information, call the City of Fairfax Police Department at **703-385-7975**.

Birth Certificates. The Virginia Department of Health maintains all records of births in the state. Birth certificates are available only to immediate family members.

To apply for a copy of a birth certificate, include the full name of the person at birth, the date and place of birth, the maiden name of the mother and the name of the father. With the signed request, provide a return address, a daytime telephone number and a photocopy of the ID of the person making the request. Include a check or money order for \$10 — made payable to the State Health Department — and mail to the Division of Vital Records, P.O. Box 1000, Richmond, VA 23208-1000. Allow ample time for processing and mailing of the certificate. For information, call **(804) 662-6200**; www.vdh.state.va.us.

Birth certificate request forms are available at the Willard Health Center, 3750 Old Lee Highway; **703-246-7100**.

VitalChek offers expedited service for ordering birth certificates; call **(804) 644-2723** or **(804) 644-2537** or visit www.vitalchek.com.

Blenheim. Blenheim is a central-hall brick farmhouse (built circa 1855) on 12 acres located on Old Lee Highway. Blenheim, which is owned by the city, is open to the public during the

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annual Civil War Weekend in May.

The property, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, features more than 100 signatures, art and poetry created by Union soldiers during their occupation of the Fairfax Court House area in 1862-63. The house contains one of the most voluminous and best-preserved examples of Civil War graffiti in the nation, a “diary on walls” providing insight into typical soldier life during the Civil War.

Another historic property, Grandma’s Cottage (built circa 1840, pictured above), was relocated in 2000 to the Blenheim complex from its previous location on Old Lee Highway. Both buildings are associated with the Willcoxon family, who was instrumental in the early history of Fairfax.

The grounds of Blenheim are available for rent for social and business functions; call **703-273-5452**.

See also: Fairfax Civil War Weekend; History; Museum.

Block Grant Programs. *See: Housing Assistance Programs.*

Boards and Commissions. The city has dozens of volunteer boards and commissions that perform various services, such as advise on policy for a 9,000-acre regional park system, induce businesses to move to the city, plan for future development and more. In addition, residents also serve as city representatives on several regional boards. All citizens are encouraged to attend board and commission meetings, which are open to the public.

Members of most city boards and commissions are appointed by the City Council. City residents who are registered voters and who have lived in the city for at least one year may apply for board vacancies. Board vacancies are advertised on Cityscreen-12, the city’s television station, and in the monthly *Cityscene*.

The City Clerk maintains information on city boards and commissions. For information, call **703-385-7935**.

Boat Registration. All boats in Virginia must be registered with the Virginia Commission on Game and Inland Fisheries, P.O. Box 11528, Richmond, VA 23230; **(877) 898-2628**; www.dgif.state.va.us.

Budget. The city’s fiscal year begins July 1. The process for approving each fiscal year’s budget begins

with the review of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), a 5-year projection of capital improvements for the city. The Planning Commission reviews the CIP in November and December then presents it to the City Council, which examines the CIP in January. Both the Planning Commission and the City Council hold several public work sessions and public hearings — citizens are invited to attend and may express their views during public hearings. The CIP is approved in April, at the same time as the budget, and incorporated into the annual budget.

The City Manager prepares the proposed budget and presents it to the City Council and the public at the first City Council work session in March. Again, the City Council holds several public work sessions and public hearings, which citizens may attend. The budget is adopted by the City Council in April and implemented July 1.

Copies of the budget are available to the public. For a copy of the budget, or for specific budget information, call the Department of Finance at **703-385-7870**.

The above meetings are publicized in *The Cityscene*, on Cityscreen-12 and on the city’s web site. City Council work sessions and public hearings are cablecast on Cityscreen-12.

Building Alterations, Inspections and Permits. Building permits must be obtained for new construction, enlargement, alteration, renovation, removal or demolition of a building or structure in Fairfax. This includes decks, swimming pools, storage sheds, new roofing and siding. Permits also are required for installation of any general wiring or electrical devices, mechanical installations and plumbing and gas installations. Residents acquiring permits must arrange for on-site inspections during and after completion of work. Residents who hire a contractor for building alterations should be certain that the contractor is licensed, that permits have been obtained and that inspections are performed. To obtain a permit or request inspection services, contact the Code Administration Office in City Hall at **703-385-7830**.

Except in the case of detached single family houses and townhouses, all plans that alter the exterior appearance, architectural features or landscaping of buildings in the city must be approved by the Board of Architectural Review. This also includes

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signs in the Historic Districts, the Transition Overlay District and some shopping centers. Requests should be submitted through the Department of Community Development and Planning in City Hall. For information, contact the Planning and Design Review Office in City Hall at **703-385-7930**.

A permit also is required for any work which necessitates excavation in a public street or right-of-way. All underground utility lines must first be located and marked before any excavation work may begin. To locate city water lines, call **703-385-7920**. For other utilities, contact Miss Utility 48 hours in advance of digging at **(800) 552-7001**.

See also: Fire Prevention Code Permits; Home Improvement Programs and Services.

Bus Service. *See: CityWheels; CUE Bus; Metro.*

Businesses. The Economic Development Office in City Hall serves as a liaison between commerce and city government. Its functions include attracting and retaining businesses to Fairfax, helping establish new businesses and assisting established businesses.

The Economic Development Office promotes redevelopment and new commercial development in Fairfax. For information and assistance regarding opening and maintaining a business in the city, call the Economic Development Office in City Hall at **703-385-7862**.

Business licenses — Owners of city businesses are required to obtain an annual business license. New businesses in the city must obtain a license within 30 days of the date of opening. Existing licenses must be renewed in March. Business licenses are available from the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office in City Hall; **703-385-7880**.

Business organizations — There are a number of business organizations in the city, including the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Fairfax Coalition. For a complete list, call the Economic Development Office at **703-385-7862**.

Business property tax — All tangible personal property, machinery or tools used in connection with a business in the city are subject to taxation. Businesses are required to file a report of taxable personal property by May 1 with the Commissioner of the Revenue. Forms are supplied by the

Commissioner's office. Business property taxes are payable to the Treasurer's Office in City Hall by October 5. For information, call **703-385-7880**.

Home-based businesses, small businesses — The Small Business Development Center (SBDC), sponsored by George Mason University, offers classes and programs helpful to small businesses and home-based businesses. The SBDC is located at 4031 University Drive; **703-277-7700**. The Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce also offers programs; **703-591-2450**.

Tax exemption — The city offers a partial real estate tax exemption to businesses that substantially renovate their older building. The exemption program was created to encourage renovation and revitalization of aging business structures in certain areas of the city. The exemption amount is based on the increased value of the commercial structure that has been substantially rehabilitated, renovated or replaced. For information, call **703-385-7862**.

See also: Chamber of Commerce; Economic Development Office; Home Occupancy Permits; Taxes; Tax Exemption Programs.

C

Cable Television. Cox Communications, Inc. (www.cox.com/fairfax) is franchised to operate a cable television system for subscribers in the City of Fairfax. For information about the availability of service or programming, call Cox at **703-378-8400**. For service, call **703-378-8422**; for repair, call **703-378-8440**.

For problems residents cannot resolve with Cox Communications, please call the City of Fairfax Community Relations Office at **703-385-7855** or visit the city's web site.

The cable television franchise is monitored by the Community Relations Office, and Cox gives the city 5 percent of subscriber fees for the use of the city's public rights-of-way. Cox also gives the city an additional 3 percent for capital projects and equipment for Cityscreen-12, the city's government-access channel.

Cityscreen-12, operated by the Community Relations Office, airs live and taped City Council work sessions and meetings, Planning Commission work sessions and meetings and School Board meetings. Channel 12 also cablecasts the city's annual Independence Day Parade and other

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special events, public service features and a 24-hour electronic bulletin board. For information about Cityscreen-12 programming, call **703-385-7803**.

Videotapes of Cityscreen-12 programs may be borrowed from the Community Relations Office in City Hall or from the Fairfax City Regional Library, 3915 Chain Bridge Road. Programs also may be purchased from the Community Relations Office.

Canvassing. *See: Peddling, Canvassing and Soliciting.*

Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP is a 5-year schedule of capital improvement projects each costing more than \$25,000, such as road repair and building maintenance. The current year's capital projects are included in the fiscal year budget.

See also: Budget.

Car Decals, Taxes. *See: Automobiles.*

Cemetery. The city operates a cemetery for city residents at 10567 Main Street; **703-385-7997**. Non-residents may request to purchase plots, but their requests must be approved by the City Council.

Chamber of Commerce. The Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce (www.cfcc.org) has served Fairfax for more than a quarter of a century. Its primary function is to promote and assist the business community. The chamber holds monthly networking meetings and educational seminars and publishes a monthly newsletter, *The Progress*.

Chamber offices are located at 3975 University Drive, Suite 350; **703-591-2450**.

Charitable Organization Solicitations. *See: Peddling, Canvassing and Soliciting.*

Child Support, Child Support Enforcement. *See: Children.*

Children. The city provides a number of services and activities for children.

Athletic groups — Year-round recreation programs are sponsored by the Fairfax Police Youth Club (FPYC), Fairfax Little League, Fairfax Babe Ruth Baseball League and the city's Department of Parks and Recreation. Activities of the non-profit FPYC include programs for boys and girls ages

5-18. More than 6,000 youngsters from the city and surrounding Fairfax County participate in such activities as basketball, baton and drum corps, football, soccer, softball, wrestling, cheerleading, lacrosse and T-ball. Youngsters ages 8-12 are eligible for Fairfax Little League baseball (the season is from April to July) and children ages 5-8 are eligible for T-ball; registration for all Little League activities is in February. Teens ages 13-19 are eligible for the Fairfax Babe Ruth Baseball League, which begins its 21-game season in May. Registration is in February. For information, call **703-385-7858**.

Child abuse — To report suspected cases of child abuse or neglect, call the Fairfax County Department of Family Services 24-hour Child Abuse Hotline at **703-324-7400**. All information is confidential.

Child support — For general information about child support, contact the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court's Domestic Relations Intake Services, 4000 Chain Bridge Road, at **703-246-3040**. For specific information about support enforcement, call the Virginia Department of Social Services at **(800) 468-8894** or contact the regional office of Child Support Enforcement, 3953 Pender Drive; **(877) 822-4612**.

City recreation programs — The Department of Parks and Recreation provides youngsters with a wide variety of year-round recreation and cultural activities. Times and locations of upcoming programs are publicized in *The Cityscene* and on Cityscreen-12. In addition, a 7-week summer playground program for city youngsters in preschool through ninth grade is conducted at city schools from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays from June to August. In conjunction with the program, extended hours are offered from 7-9 a.m. and from 3-6 p.m. in some elementary schools. The program offers sports and games, swimming, films and field trips, arts and crafts and special events. Teens can be kept busy during the summer in the city's Teen Center at the Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road; call **703-385-7858** for information.

Daycare — The city's Human Services Office in City Hall maintains listings and offers brochures to assist citizens in locating child care. Listings include names and addresses of daycare and pre-school centers as well as home child care providers. For information, call the City of Fairfax Human Services Office at **703-385-**

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7894. The School-Aged Child Care (SACC) program offers before- and after-school care for elementary school students in city elementary schools. Payment is on a sliding fee scale. For information, call **703-449-8989**. Child care providers in the city must obtain an annual permit to provide daycare in their homes. For information, call the Human Services Office at **703-385-7894**.

Health insurance programs — City residents may apply for assistance with health services for their children with the Fairfax County Department of Family Services. Participants may be eligible for a number of free or low-cost health insurance programs available for children from birth through age 18 who live in low-income working families. Some programs and services are offered to pregnant women. For information, call **703-324-7763**.

Safety seats — The City of Fairfax Police recommend all children younger than age 12, when riding in a vehicle, be properly restrained in the vehicle's rear seat using safety seats and restraint devices (seat belts, etc.) approved for their ages and sizes. Additionally, Commonwealth law requires children younger than age 6 to be in safety seats. Child safety seats should not be installed in the front seat of vehicles with air bags; however, some newer model vehicles with front seat air bags have shut-off switches. For information on child safety seat laws, call **703-385-7914**. For assistance with correctly installing child safety seats, contact the Police Department at **703-279-7999**. Some insurance companies loan child safety seats on a short-term basis.

Schools — By Virginia law, children who have reached their fifth birthday on or before September 30 must be enrolled in kindergarten for that school year beginning in the fall unless their parents or guardians notify the principal of the local school that they do not wish the child to attend. However, children who will be six years old on or before September 30 must attend school during the school year beginning that fall. Parents should take a birth certificate, social security number and proof of residency or equivalent and a transfer slip or report card from the previous school to the new school office when enrolling a child. Evidence of immunization and a certificate of physical examination are required for elementary students. For more information, call **703-876-5219**. To find out in which school to enroll a child, call **703-329-9831**. A qualifying par-

ent may elect to provide home instruction for his or her school-age child in lieu of school attendance; call **703-876-5227**.

Youth, 4-H programs — The 4-H Youth Program of Virginia Cooperative Extension provides leadership and learning activities for Fairfax youth ages 5-19. 4-H members perform a variety of service projects within their clubs. Extension 4-H also sponsors special projects for at-risk youth and families. For information, call **703-324-5369**.

See also: Automobiles; Immunizations; Schools.

Chocolate Lovers Festival. In early February, the city joins forces with merchants and community organizations to host a Chocolate Lovers Festival in downtown Fairfax. Bak-

ers, confectioners and chocolate manufacturers offer sample tastes and display art created entirely of chocolate.

The event also offers other activities, including children's activities and historic building open houses, that involve chocolate.

Call **703-591-2450** or visit www.chocolatefestival.net for information.

Christmas Tree Recycling. *See: Recycling Service.*

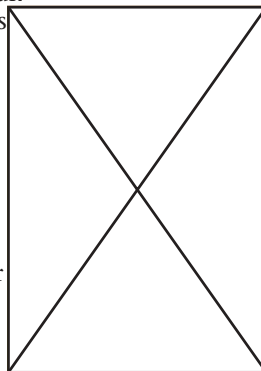
Cigarette Tax. The city levies a tax on each pack of cigarettes sold in the city. The tax initially is paid by the wholesaler and passed on to the customer.

See also: Taxes.

Cities. In Virginia, incorporated cities are independent of the counties that adjoin or surround them.

The City of Fairfax is an independent city surrounded by Fairfax County, and even though some county offices are located here, the city is a completely separate jurisdiction from the county. For example, city residents must have a vehicle decal from the City of Fairfax, rather than from the county.

Because the U.S. Post Office uses a zip code breakdown rather than



jurisdictional boundaries, it is possible to have a postal address of "Fairfax, Virginia" without living in the City of Fairfax.

Citizenship. Those who are not U.S. citizens by birth may be eligible to become U.S. citizens by naturalization through the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS).

Applicants must be at least 18 years old; have lived in the U.S. for five years as a permanent resident; be of good moral character; read, write, speak, and understand English; demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of U.S. history and government; have an attachment to the principles of the U.S. Constitution; and have a favorable disposition toward the United States. For information on citizenship, call **(800) 375-5283**.

See also: Green Card.

City Clerk. The City Clerk's Office in City Hall keeps a record of all City Council agendas and actions. Information on boards and commissions also may be obtained at the City Clerk's Office. For information, call **703-385-7935**.

City Code. The City Code, comprising laws specific to the city, is approved by the City Council. The City Code is available for review in the City Clerks' office and on the city's web site. For information, call **703-385-7935**.

City Council. Fairfax has a council/manager form of government. The Mayor and six Councilmembers are elected every two years on an at-large, non-partisan basis. Although they do not have offices in City Hall, the Mayor and City Council can be reached through City Hall at **703-385-7800**, via e-mail or at their homes (see the list on page 45).

See also: Elections.

City Council Meetings. The City Council holds meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in City Hall. Work sessions usually are held on the first (and sometimes the third) Tuesday of each month. Meetings and work sessions are open to the public, although work sessions do not provide citizens the opportunity to address the City Council.

Work sessions and meetings are cable televised on Cityscreen-12, the city's television station. The Com-

munity Relations Office in City Hall can answer questions about city government; call **703-385-7855**.

Actions taken at City Council meetings are recorded in the *Council Reporter*. For a copy of an agenda or *Council Reporter*, call the City Clerk's office at **703-385-7935** or visit the city's web site.

City Hall. Located at 10455 Armstrong Street, this stately Georgian-style building was built in 1961 and houses most city government offices. It also is the location where most city boards and commissions meet, including the City Council. City government offices are open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Additionally, the offices of the Treasurer and the Commissioner of the Revenue are open until 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month from November through May.

The City Hall annex, the Sisson House, houses the offices of the General Registrar and the School Superintendent.

On the west lawn of City Hall, the Veterans Amphitheater is host to a variety of outdoor concerts and festivities.

See also: Concerts.

City Offices. The city's administrative offices are located in:

- City Hall — 10455 Armstrong Street
- John C. Wood Municipal Complex — 3730 Old Lee Highway
- Property Yard — 3410 Pickett Road
- Fire Station 3 — 4081 University Drive
- Green Acres Center — 4401 Sideburn Road
- Goose Creek Water Treatment Plant — 25021 Belmont Ridge Road, Ashburn, VA

All departments are located in City Hall except the City of Fairfax Police Department and the Department of Parks and Recreation, which are at the Wood Complex. The Fire Department administrative office is located at Fire Station 3, and certain divisions of the Public Works and Utilities departments are at the Property Yard.

The City of Fairfax also has a water treatment plant at the Goose Creek Reservoir in Loudoun County.

City Stickers. *See: Automobiles.*

Cityscene. The City of Fairfax provides *The Cityscene*, a monthly



Cityscene

www.fairfaxva.gov

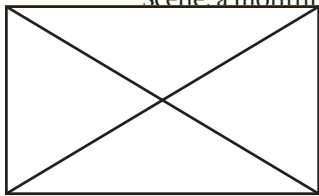
Notes

newsletter, to all residences and businesses in the city.

The Cityscene reports on city government actions and community events. The newsletter contains timely information on city government programs and services, a *Community Calendar*, the *Council Reporter*, city government meeting agendas, board and commission vacancies and Cityscreen-12 programs.

See also: Community Relations.

Cityscreen-12. The City of Fairfax government-access television station, on Channel 12 through Cox Communications, Inc., cablecasts live and taped meetings of the City Council, Planning Commission, and the School Board. Cityscreen-12 also produces and cablecasts *The Fairfax Scene*, a monthly news magazine,



as well as special events and a 24-hour bulletin board of city government and community news and activities.

For information, call **703-385-7803**.

See also: Cable Television; Community Relations.

CityWheels. CityWheels is a City of Fairfax program offering paratransit service to city residents with disabilities who are unable to use the city's conventional bus service. CityWheels is a transportation network of private taxi companies and lift-equipped vans subsidized by the city. The program offers taxi service for a set fare within the city, to the Vienna/Fairfax-GMU Metrorail Station, to George Mason University and to the Fair Oaks Hospital. For information or for an application, call **703-385-7859**.

Civic Associations. Many city neighborhoods have organized civic associations that serve as forums for community opinion on matters of mutual interest. Many groups meet regularly and publish periodic newsletters. Civic associations often serve as liaisons between neighborhoods and City Hall.

The Community Relations Office maintains a list of civic associations. To obtain a copy, visit the city's web site or call **703-385-7855**.

Civil War Weekend. *See: Fairfax Civil War Weekend.*

Clerk of the Circuit Court. City

voters elect the Clerk of the Circuit Court, one of the constitutional officers created by the Commonwealth's constitution.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court, who is elected to an 8-year term, is the official custodian of all court records and documents for both the city and Fairfax County.

The Clerk's office is located on the third floor of the Jennings Building, 4110 Chain Bridge Road; **703-246-4101**.

Colleges and Universities. Two major schools of higher education are located near the City of Fairfax.



George Mason University, located on the city's southern boundary, is a state university that serves nearly 25,000 students and offers undergraduate and graduate programs. GMU (www.gmu.edu) has a number of sports arenas and performing art forums, such as the Patriot Center, Harris Theater, the Johnson Center and the Center for the Performing Arts. For information, call **703-993-1000**. The City/University Committee, a city board comprised of representatives of the city and GMU, meets regularly to identify cooperative opportunities.

Northern Virginia Community College (www.nvcc.edu) is a 2-year, state-supported regional college with five campuses in the area, including the main Annandale campus near the city. For information, call **703-323-3000**.



Commercial Automobile Parking. *See: Automobiles.*

Commissioner of the Revenue. The Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue in City Hall is the chief tax assessing office in the city and administers the majority of taxes: 11 separate taxes, including the meals tax and utility taxes. The office also files — and offers residents assistance with — Virginia state income tax returns and federal income tax returns.

The Commissioner of the Revenue's Office performs tax assessments, processes tax reports and verifies the accuracy of reported taxes. The office also maintains the accuracy of the city's tax rolls, issues business licenses and verifies the

Notes

location of taxpayers as they move in and out of the city. For information, call **703-385-7884**.

City residents elect the Commissioner of the Revenue to a 4-year term.

Commonwealth's Attorney. As the chief law enforcement officer in the city and in Fairfax County, the Commonwealth's Attorney prosecutes criminal cases, including all felonies occurring in the city. The principal focus of this office is major crimes, and the office works closely with the City of Fairfax Police Department. Offices of the Commonwealth's Attorney are located in the Fairfax County Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 123; **703-246-2776**.

Residents of the city and Fairfax County elect the Commonwealth's Attorney to a 4-year term.

Community Development and Planning. All land in the City of Fairfax is zoned for residential, planned development, commercial or industrial uses.

The *Comprehensive Plan* serves as a basic guide for the city's development. Copies are available from the Department of Community Development and Planning (CDP) in City Hall. There is a fee for The Comprehensive Plan.

Density of development and permitted uses for each zoning category are specified in the zoning ordinance. Under the ordinance, certain land uses are permitted in each district as a matter of right. Others require special permits, which — depending on the type of permit — must be approved by either the Board of Zoning Appeals or by the City Council.

All applications for zoning changes are carefully evaluated by CDP, after which public hearings are held by both the Planning Commission and the City Council. Both hearings must be advertised in advance; signs also are posted on the property and written notice is sent to owners of adjacent properties. Anyone who supports or opposes the application may speak at these public hearings.

The Board of Architectural Review (BAR) must approve the appearance of all new construction, exterior alterations and major landscaping. The BAR also approves signs in the Historic District, the Transition Overlay District and in some shopping centers.

The Board of Zoning Appeals, appointed by the Circuit Court, hears

appeals from rulings of the zoning administrator, applications for variances, certain special exceptions and special use permits for certain zoning districts. Zoning decisions by the City Council and Board of Zoning Appeals may be appealed to the Circuit Court.

Copies of the city's zoning ordinance may be obtained from the Department of Community Development and Planning in City Hall; 703-385-7820. Zoning maps are available from the Department of Public Works; **703-385-7817**.

Community Relations. The Community Relations Office in City Hall provides information about city and community activities using print, cable and electronic resources.

The Cityscene, a monthly newsletter mailed to all residences and businesses, contains timely news about city government, reminders about taxes, voting and vehicle decal deadlines, details and schedules of special events, classes and activities sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department, and much more. *The Cityscene* is an important means of keeping informed of city actions, activities and events.

The Community Relations Office also publishes a number of brochures, flyers, pamphlets, and the monthly *Community Calendar*, an annual list of activities in and around the city. For a complete list of publications, call **703-385-7855**.

Cityscreen-12, the city's cable television station, cablecasts live and taped City Council meetings, in addition to selected special events, public service features, live coverage of the annual Independence Day Parade and a 24-hour electronic bulletin board. Programming schedules are listed on Cityscreen-12 and in *The Cityscene*.

The office also serves as a general inquiry center for city residents to obtain city-related information. Call the Community Relations Office at **703-385-7855**.

See also: Cityscene, Cityscreen-12.

Community Use Facilities. *See: City Hall; Fairfax High School Community Center; Fire Stations; Old Town Hall; Schools; Wood Municipal Complex.*

Composting. Residents can obtain information about backyard composting from the Department of Public Works. The city regularly offers composting classes at the

composting demonstration site behind City Hall. For information, call **703-385-7995**.

See also: Recycling Service.

Computer Services. Computer use and Internet access is available at the Fairfax City Regional Library, 3915 Chain Bridge Road; **703-293-6227**.

See also: Library.

Concealed Weapon Permits. Concealed weapon applications are available from the Fairfax County Circuit Court, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Third Floor. There are multiple steps in the application process, and information about each step in the process is provided with the application.

A completed application, including a certificate showing completion of a firearms training course, must be filed with the Fairfax County Circuit Court Civil Intake Counter, which accepts applications from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. The filing fee is \$50 payable with cash, certified check, money order (made out to Fairfax County Circuit Court), Visa or MasterCard.

Once filed with the Circuit Court, the final review process may take up to 45 days. Applicants will be notified by mail whether their application was approved or denied. For information, call **703-691-7320**, then press 3, 5, or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Concerts. The music community is extremely active in Fairfax. The city government sponsors or helps organize concerts featuring performances by local and national talent.

Every summer, the free Summer Concert Series is held at the Veterans Amphitheater next to City Hall. The concerts are held on Thursday evenings in June and July. Audience members are advised to provide their own seating. For information, call **703-385-7858**.

In the autumn and winter, the Old Town Hall Performance Series features musicians and other talented performers in free concerts at Old Town Hall; for information, call **703-352-ARTS**.

The City of Fairfax Band offers entertainment all year. For a schedule of band concerts, call **703-757-0220**.

At George Mason University, the Center for the Arts and the Patriot Center offer performances of both

student talent and nationally recognized performers. For a schedule of performances, call the Center for the Arts at **703-993-8888** and the Patriot Center at **703-993-3000**.

Consumer Affairs / Consumer Protection. The City of Fairfax does not have a consumer affairs office. Instead, the city relies on the Virginia Office of Consumer Protection, an office of the commonwealth, for investigating consumer and landlord/tenant problems. For information, call **(800) 552-9963**.

City residents who need assistance concerning a business located in Fairfax County may contact the Fairfax County Department of Consumer Services, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 433, Fairfax, VA 22035; **703-324-5900**.

For cable-related problems residents cannot resolve with Cox Communications, Inc., contact the City of Fairfax Community Relations Office, 10455 Armstrong Street, Fairfax, VA 22030; **703-385-7855**.

Consumer Education. *See: Financial Education.*

Courts. City of Fairfax residents are served by three Virginia courts: the Circuit Court of the 19th District, the General District Court for the City of Fairfax and the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. Judges for these courts are appointed on an as-needed basis by the Virginia General Assembly.

Circuit Court — The Circuit Court (www.fairfaxcounty.gov) hears felonies, civil suits, divorce cases and appeals from lower courts. The Circuit Court is located in the Fairfax County Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road. For information, call the Clerk of the Circuit Court at **703-691-7320**.

The clerk's office also handles information about the following services; for information, call **703-691-7320**, then the extensions listed:

- adoption (3, 1, 0)
- concealed weapon permits (3, 5)
- criminal (3, 2)
- deeds (3, 4)
- divorce (filing) (3, 1, 4, 2)
- estate administration (3, 6, 3)
- land records (3, 4)
- marriage licenses (3, 6, 1)
- name changes (3, 1, 4, 3)
- notary (3, 6, 2)
- passport applications (3, 6, 4)
- small claims (4, 2)
- wills probate (3, 6, 3)

General District Court — The City of Fairfax General District Court hears

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traffic violations and criminal misdemeanors. Court is held in Room 304 of City Hall beginning at 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Because this court is not of record, all cases are heard by a judge; there are no jury trials at this level. For information about pre-payments of traffic violations, call **703-385-7865** (24-hour recording). For information on court records or case scheduling, call the Clerk of the Court at **703-385-7866**. For parking violation fine information, call **(888) 609-PARK**. To contest a parking violation, call the clerk's office at **703-385-7866**.

Fairfax County's General District Court, 4110 Chain Bridge Road hears cases for traffic, civil and criminal violations and small claims cases that occur in Fairfax County. Call **703-246-3764** for traffic cases, **703-691-7320** for civil cases, **703-691-7320** for criminal cases and **703-246-2115** for small claims; www.fairfaxcounty.gov (TTY: **703-934-1296**).

Juvenile Cases (Family Court) — Cases involving all offenses committed by juveniles in the city, including traffic citations, are heard by the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court at the County Courthouse, 4000 Chain Bridge Road (www.fairfaxcounty.gov). This court also hears cases of offenses by adults against juveniles and other cases such as non-support, assault and child custody. For information, call juvenile intake at **703-246-2495**.

Magistrates — Magistrates are judicial officers who issue arrest and search warrants and determine pre-trial releases. The magistrate also considers petitions for commitment and issues restraining orders. City residents may request such services from the magistrate at the Adult Detention Center, 10520 Judicial Drive; **703-246-2178**.

See also: Adoption; Children; Concealed Weapon Permit; Deeds; Divorce; Marriage Licenses; Name Changes; Notary Information; Parking Tickets; Passports; Wills and Estate Administration Information.

Craft Fairs. *See: Fall Festival; Holiday Craft Show.*

CUE Bus System. The city's CUE Bus system provides regularly scheduled, low-cost service to George Mason University, to shopping centers and to other destinations within the City of Fairfax. It also serves as a feeder network to

the Vienna/Fairfax-GMU Metrorail Station.

Fare is 50¢. GMU students, staff and faculty ride for 25¢. Children age 3 and younger ride free. Elementary, intermediate and high school students and senior citizens (age 60 and older) with a valid ID ride for 25¢.

Exact change is required. Buses accept dollar bills, but do not make change.

Tickets are sold in books of 10 for \$5; one ticket is valid for a single ride on the CUE Bus.

For information on CUE Bus schedules, call **703-385-7859** or visit the city's web site.

All CUE Buses are handicapped-accessible. However, residents with disabilities who are unable to use the CUE Bus system may participate in CityWheels, a transportation network of private taxi companies and lift-equipped vans subsidized by the city.

For city transit information, call **703-385-7859**.

See also: CityWheels; Disability Services.

Curbside Collection/Recycling.
See: Recycling Service; Refuse Service.

D

Daycare. *See: Children.*

Death Certificates. Death certificates for those who have died within the past five years in the city, in Fairfax County and the City of Falls Church are available to immediate family members at the Joseph Willard Health Center, 3750 Old Lee Highway; **703-246-7122**.

Death certificates for all people who died in Virginia are kept by the Virginia Department of Health (www.vdh.state.va.us) and are available to immediate family members only. Each copy costs \$10. To request a certificate, include the full name of the deceased and the date and place of death. All requests must be signed and include a return address, daytime telephone number and a photocopy of the ID of the person making the request. Include a check or money order made payable to the State Health Department and mail the request to the Division of Vital Records, P.O. Box 1000, Richmond, VA 23208-1000. Allow ample time for processing and mailing of the certificate. For information, call **(804) 662-6200**.

VitalChek offers expedited service for ordering death certificates; call **(804) 644-2723** or **(804) 644-2537** or visit www.vitalchek.com.

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Deeds. City residents file deeds to their property on the third floor of the Fairfax County Circuit Court, 4110 Chain Bridge Road (www.fairfaxcounty.gov). Residents must bring to the land records office a legally prepared deed that has a tax map number and is signed and notarized. Deed filings are processed from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. The cost of filing a deed varies depending on the type of deed. Fees may be paid with cash or a money order. For information, call **703-691-7320**, then press 3, 4.

Dental Services. *See: Health Department, Health Services.*

Detention Facilities. The city contracts for detention facilities through its City/County General Services Agreement. The Adult Detention Center is located at 10520 Judicial Drive; **703-246-2100** (24-hour information). City of Fairfax juveniles who are detained by the police may be placed in the Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center, 10650 Page Avenue; **703-246-2844** (24-hour information).

Disability Services. All city services and facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. The Fairfax-Falls Church Disability Services Board provides information and advocacy; **703-324-5219**. For more information, call the Human Services Office in City Hall at **703-385-7894**.

City publications can be made available in large print or recorded on cassette tape. City board and commission meetings can be signed for citizens with hearing disabilities. For information, call **703-293-7120** (voice/TTY).

A wide variety of programs provide additional services for city residents with disabilities. Programs are available through the public school system as well as through contracts with appropriate Fairfax County agencies. For information, call **703-385-7894**.

Suspected abuse, financial exploitation or neglect of persons with disabilities should be reported to the Adult Protective Services Division of the Department of Family Services, 12011 Government Center Parkway Suite 232, Fairfax, VA 22035; **703-324-7450**.

Parking permits, which allow people with disabilities to use specially designated parking spaces and which must be displayed in vehicle

windows, are available from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). DMV permits are available in the form of license plates or placards that can be moved from one vehicle to another for use by a driver with disabilities or by someone transporting people with disabilities. For an application and information, call the DMV at **(800) 435-5137** or contact the limited services DMV Office in City Hall; **703-385-7884**.

The Fairfax County Public Library system provides collections for and about people with disabilities. More than 23,000 Talking Books are available through the Access Services Office in the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway Suite 123, Fairfax, VA 22035; **703-324-8380** (TTY: **703-324-8365**). Special machines required to play the recorded books are available on long-term loan through this free service. Large-print books are available through all branches.

Real estate tax and rental relief benefits are available to income-eligible residents with permanent disabilities; call **703-385-7870**. The city also participates in the Home Improvement Loan Program and Home Repair for the Elderly, which offer assistance to eligible low-income elderly and disabled homeowners. For information, call **703-385-7930**.

Para-transportation services are provided by CityWheels and MetroAccess.

For information about access to public facilities and transit, call the city's human services coordinator at **703-385-7894**.

See also: Children; CityWheels; Metro; Senior Citizens; TTY (Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf) Services.

Discrimination. Virginia code prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status or disability. To report complaints of possible violations, contact the Virginia Council on Human Rights, Washington Building, 1100 Bank Street, Richmond, VA 23219; **(804) 225-2292**; chr.vipnet.org.

Divorce. City residents file for divorce through the Fairfax County Circuit Court in the Fairfax County Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road (www.fairfaxcounty.gov). For information, call the Clerk of the Circuit Court at **703-691-7320**, then press 3, 1, 4, 2.

For information on the status of

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a pending divorce, call **703-691-7320**, then press 3, 1, 1, 3.

Divorce Records. Divorce records for cases processed by Fairfax County Circuit Court are available at the Fairfax County Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Third Floor; **703-691-7320**, then press 3, 1, 5, 2. Records of divorces granted before 1979 are kept at the court archives, 4500 University Drive; **703-246-6656**.

To apply for a copy of divorce records from Fairfax County Circuit Court (www.fairfaxcounty.gov), provide the case number or the full name of the parties. There is a charge of 50¢ per page to photocopy the record and \$2 to certify the record, payable with cash.

Written requests may be mailed to Fairfax County Clerk of the Circuit Court, Fairfax County Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030. Include a check or money order made payable to the Fairfax County Circuit Court, or a bill will be included with records upon delivery. Allow three weeks for processing and mailing.

The Virginia Department of Health (www.vdh.state.va.us) maintains all records of divorce in the commonwealth. Divorce records are available to immediate family only. To apply for a copy of divorce records, include the full name of the husband and the wife (including the wife's maiden name), and the date and place of the divorce. With the signed request, provide a return address and a daytime telephone number. Include a check or money order for \$10 — made payable to the State Health Department — and mail to the Division of Vital Records, P.O. Box 1000, Richmond, VA 23208-1000. Allow ample time for processing and mailing of the information. For information, call **(804) 662-6200**.

VitalChek offers expedited service for divorce certificates; call **(804) 644-2723** or **(804) 644-2537** or visit www.vitalchek.com.

DMV. The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), www.dmv.state.va.us, is a state agency and is not a part of the city government. The general information number is **(800) 435-5137**.

The City of Fairfax offers limited DMV services from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays (excluding holidays). City DMV services are limited to:

- Titles: original, substitute, replacement, maintenance

- Registration: original, renewal, transfer, re-issue, surrender
- Special or personalized license plate requests
- Trip or overload permits
- Original handicapped parking placards
- Voter registration applications
- Driver transcript requests
- Title and registration transactions for dealers
- Name and address changes that do not involve issuance of a drivers license or ID card

Please note: the limited DMV Office in City Hall does not issue drivers licenses or state identification cards.

See also: Automobiles; Disability Services.

Dog Licenses. *See: Animals.*

Domestic Violence Assistance. Counseling, emergency assistance and advocacy for women who are victims of sexual assault or spouse abuse are provided by a number of organizations, including the Victim Assistance Network; **703-360-7273** (24-hours a day); and the Fairfax Victim/Witness Services; **703-246-2141 (TTY: 703-222-7314)**. Women and children may seek assistance at the Fairfax County Women's Shelter; 703-435-4940 (24 hours a day). Spanish translation is offered at these locations. Citizens also may contact the City of Fairfax Police Department at **703-385-7924** for assistance.

See also: Housing Programs Assistance; Human Services; Social Services; Women's Programs.

Driver's Licenses. *See: Automobiles.*

Drop-off Centers. *See: Household Hazardous Waste Disposal; Recycling Service; Refuse Service.*

Drug Abuse. *See: Substance Abuse.*

Dump. Residents may take refuse to the Ox Road Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road; **703-631-1179**. The station is open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. There is a disposal fee.

Recyclables may be taken to the 24-hour Recycle Center at the Property Yard, 3410 Pickett Road.

See also: Recycling Service; Refuse Service.

Notes

E

Economic Development. The Economic Development Office in City Hall serves as a liaison between commerce and city government, attracting and retaining businesses to Fairfax, helping new businesses open and assisting established businesses. The Economic Development Office promotes redevelopment and new commercial development in Fairfax.

The Economic Development Office maintains a list of city business organizations and a list of businesses that have received occupancy permits in the city.

The office also works with the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center to promote tourism and, for visitors and residents of Fairfax alike, maintains a list of local hotels and other tourist information and a brochure on historic sites and buildings in downtown Fairfax.

The office publishes business factsheets and a brochure on merchants in downtown Fairfax.

For information, call **703-385-7862**.

Elected Officials. City residents elect representatives on the local, state and federal level. Residents also elect shared city/county officials, such as the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sheriff and Commonwealth's Attorney. A list of elected officials is included in this handbook.

See also: City Council; Commissioner of the Revenue; Clerk of the Circuit Court; Commonwealth's Attorney; Elections; School Board; Sheriff; Treasurer.

Elections. Non-partisan, at-large elections for Mayor, City Council and School Board are held in even-numbered years on the first Tuesday in May. These elected officials assume office on the first day of July following the election, and serve 2-year terms.

The Treasurer and Commissioner of the Revenue serve 4-year terms, and their elections are held in odd-numbered years on the first Tuesday (following the first Monday) in November. The Treasurer and Commissioner of the Revenue each assume office on the first day of January following the election.

City residents also are eligible to vote in the November general election and in periodic special elections and primary elections.

The city is part of the 19th Judicial Circuit and, as such, also elects

the Clerk of Circuit Court, Sheriff and Commonwealth's Attorney.

A court-appointed Electoral Board conducts city elections, and officers of election are appointed by the board to work the polls on election days. To become an officer of election, call **703-385-7890**.

To run for any office, contact the state Board of Elections at **(800) 552-9745** for the proper forms. Local offices require petitions signed by at least 125 qualified voters. All necessary forms for candidates for local office must be filed with the city's General Registrar.

For information, call the city General Registrar's Office at **703-385-7890**.

See also: Voter Registration.

Emergencies. For emergency fire or ambulance service, dial **911** (voice/TTY).

For emergency police service, dial **703-591-5511 (TTY: 703-359-2480)**. City police emergencies reported to **911** are immediately rerouted to the City Police Department.

For water emergencies, call **703-385-7915** between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays; on evenings, weekends and holidays, call **703-385-7924 (TTY: 703-359-2480)**.

Employment. For information about current employment opportunities with the City of Fairfax, call the 24-hour Job Line at **703-385-7861**, visit the Personnel Office in City Hall or the city's web site. The City of Fairfax is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.

The Virginia Employment Commission (www.vec.state.va.us) offers free job placement, counseling and special job programs. The local office is located at 13135 Lee-Jackson Highway, Suite 340; **703-803-0000**.

See also: Unemployment.

Extension Services. City residents may use the Fairfax County Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension (www.fairfaxcounty.gov) for services such as pest control and plant and lawn care.

The Master Gardener Helpline provides horticultural and environmental information with educational and outreach projects on such topics as lawn care, pollution reduction and pest management. For information, call **703-324-8556**.

Plant and insect problems can be diagnosed at Neighborhood Plant Clinics and at a Diagnostic Lab run from May through September by the Fairfax County Master Gardener As-

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sociation; **703-324-5393**. A soil testing service is available — collect a test kit from any Fairfax County public library.

F

Fair Oaks Hospital. Located at 3600 Joseph Siewick Drive; **703-391-3600**.

See also: Hospitals, Health Facilities.

Fairfax Civil War Weekend. Held in May, the event features Civil War era music and activities. Highlights include period military demonstrations and children's activities. The event provides an opportunity to see the interior of the Blenheim house, currently under restoration. The event is produced by the city's Office of Historic Resources and the 17th Virginia Infantry, Company D. For information, call the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center at **703-385-8414**.

See also: Blenheim; History; Museum.

Fairfax High School (FHS) Community Center. Groups may reserve use of classrooms, the auditorium and the cafeteria at Fairfax High School, 3500 Old Lee Highway; www.fcps.k12.va.us. To schedule use of this facility, contact the FHS community activities director at **703-219-2230**.

Fairfax Hospital. Located at 3300 Gallows Road; **703-698-1110**.

See also: Hospitals, Health Facilities.

Fairfax Police Youth Club. *See: Athletic Groups.*

Fall Festival. One of the area's most popular outdoor events, the Fall Festival is held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the second Saturday in October in the streets of Old Town Fairfax. The open-air festival features hundreds of high quality arts and crafts exhibitors, live music, food and children's activities. Applications for exhibiting at the festival are due in early spring. The rain date is the following Sunday. For information, call the Parks and Recreation department at **703-385-858**.

Fall for the Book. Sponsored by the City of Fairfax and George Mason University,

Fall for the Book (www.fallforthebook.org) celebrates literature and literacy. Readings, book signings, writing clinics and more for people of all ages are held in late September in Fairfax and at George Mason University. For information, call **703-993-3986**.

Farmers Market. Locally grown fresh produce, as well as baked goods, plants and more are available at two different farmers markets in the city.

The Farmers Market is held from 8 a.m. to noon Tuesdays from May through October at Van Dyck Park next to the John C. Wood Complex, 3730 Old Lee Highway. The Farmers Market is sponsored by the city and the state government. For information, call **703-385-7862**.

The Downtown Fairfax Coalition holds a Farmers Market from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays from May through October. The market is held at the intersection of West and Main streets, next to the First Union Bank parking lot. For information, call **703-430-6164**.

Festival of Lights and Carols. Held in December, this celebration features a community-wide holiday decorating and lighting competition.

On the first Saturday in December, the city hosts a tree lighting, caroling festival and reception in Old Town Fairfax. For information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at **703-385-7858**.

Financial Assistance. The city offers financial assistance in the form of tax and rent relief to residents with disabilities and to elderly residents with low incomes. These programs are administered by the Department of Finance. For information, call **703-385-7870**.

See also: Disability Services; Housing Assistance Programs; Human Services; Senior Citizens.

Financial Education. The Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Greater Washington, Inc., (www.debtfreeforme.com) can help residents communicate with creditors. The non-profit service helps arrange payment plans and offers financial counseling to avoid debt. There is no charge for these services. For information, call **(800) 747-4222**.

Fingerprinting. The City of Fairfax Police Department offers fingerprinting to city residents and those who work in the city who are apply-

Notes

ing for a government job or trying to obtain a federal security clearance. Fingerprinting is done by appointment and costs \$5. For information or to schedule an appointment, call **703-385-7955**.

Changes in federal regulations prohibit the Police Department from fingerprinting persons for immigration purposes. To be fingerprinted for immigration purposes, call **202-514-2000**.

Fire and Rescue. To report a fire or obtain emergency fire assistance or medical aid, call **911 (voice/TTY)**.

City fire protection and emergency medical services are provided by a force of combined salaried and volunteer firefighters and

emergency medical personnel. In a reciprocal agreement, Fairfax County provides back-up and fill-in services to the city when needed.

Emergency medical care is furnished by full-time, 24-hour emergency medical technicians (EMT) and EMT-paramedics, both salaried and volunteer. There are two fire and rescue stations in the city: Station 3 at 4081 University Drive (**703-385-7878**) and Station 33 at 10101 Lee Highway (**703-385-7941**).

In addition to providing fire and rescue services, the department offers a nationally recognized, award-winning home and commercial fire safety education training and inspection program. As a service to residents, free blood pressure testing is available at both fire stations.

The Fire Department also provides free smoke detectors and batteries for city residents upon request. For information, all **703-385-7940**.

For more information, contact the Fire Department at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive; **703-385-7940**.

Citizens 18 and older interested in becoming volunteer firefighters may contact the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department at **703-385-7877** or visit fairfaxvfd.com.

Fire Prevention Code Permits.

City ordinances require a permit for certain potentially hazardous situations, such as the storage of large quantities of gasoline; welding; use and storage of dynamite; storage and sale of fireworks; storage of compressed gases and ra-

diation sources; and storage of combustible and flammable materials. Fire Prevention Code permits may be obtained from the Office of Code Administration at City Hall; **703-385-7830**.

See also: Household Hazardous Waste Disposal.

Fire Stations. The City has two fire stations: Fire Station 3 (4081 University Drive; **703-385-7878**) and Fire Station 33 (10101 Lee Highway; **703-385-7941**).

Fire Station 3 houses both the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department and the City of Fairfax Fire Department. Williams Memorial Hall, a banquet room in Station 3, is available for rental; call **703-385-7877**, ext. 19.

Free blood pressure checks are offered at both fire stations.

Fishing Licenses. A state license is required to fish in Virginia waters. Licenses are available from area hardware and sporting goods stores. For information, contact the Virginia Commission on Game and Inland Fisheries, P.O. Box 11104, Richmond, VA 23220; **(804) 367-9369**; www.dgif.state.va.us.

Flood Plain. Permission from the City of Fairfax is required for construction within the city's official 100-year flood plain. For information, call **703-385-7820**.

Food Stamps. *See: Social Services.*

Ford Building. *See: History.*

G

Gasoline Tax. A gasoline tax is levied throughout Northern Virginia. The commonwealth collects the tax and returns it to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, which, in turn, allocates the funds to help defray each jurisdiction's share of Metro bus and rail expenses and other transit expenses.

See also: Taxes.

George Mason University. *See: Colleges and Universities.*

Government. The City of Fairfax (www.fairfaxva.gov) operates under the council-manager form of government. All legislative powers are vested in the Mayor and six Council-

Notes

members, elected at-large for 2-year terms in May of every even-numbered year.

The City Council establishes city policy, makes appointments to boards and commissions, passes resolutions and ordinances, approves the city budget and sets tax rates.

Although the Mayor and City Councilmembers do not have offices in City Hall, they can be contacted through City Hall at **703-385-7800**, via e-mail, or at their homes (see the list in this handbook).

Also elected by the voters is the School Board, which serves a 2-year term and is elected in May on every even-numbered year. Elected to 4-year terms in odd-numbered years are the city Treasurer and Commissioner of the Revenue, the Sheriff and Commonwealth's Attorney and — to an 8-year term — the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

As provided for in the city's charter, the City Manager is the executive officer of the city government and is responsible to the City Council for the proper administration of the city government.

The city government is composed of nine departments: the City Manager's Office, Community Development and Planning, Finance, Fire, Information Technology, Parks and Recreation, Police, Public Works and Utilities.

In addition, the city contracts with Fairfax County to operate various services, including schools and health services.

See also: Elected Officials; Elections.

Grass Clippings. *See: Recycling Service, Refuse Service.*

Green Card. The Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS) issues Permanent Resident Cards (Form I-1551), commonly known as "green cards," to permanent non-U.S. citizen residents to verify their right to live and be legally employed in the United States. For information, call **(800) 375-5283** or visit www.bcis.gov.

To renew green cards, complete BCIS Form I-90 Application to Replace a Permanent Resident Card, which is available online at www.bcis.gov or from the BCIS forms request line at **(800) 870-3676**.

See also: Citizenship.

Gypsy Moths. *See: Extension Services.*

H

Handicapped Services. *See: Disability Services.*

Hauling Permits. All oversized or overweight vehicles traveling into or through the city must obtain in advance a hauling permit from the Department of Public Works.

Permits are available for a one-time trip or for multiple trips during the same calendar year. For information, call **703-385-7810**.

Hazardous Use Permits. *See: Fire Prevention Code Permits.*

Hazardous Waste Disposal. *See: Household Hazardous Waste Disposal; Refuse Service.*

Health Department, Health Services. Under a contractual agreement, the Fairfax County Health Department (www.fairfaxcounty.gov) provides public health services to city residents. These services include adult day health programs, school health programs and specialized clinics.

Detailed information is available from the Joseph Willard Health Center, 3750 Old Lee Highway; **703-246-7100**.

The Willard Health Center offers limited health services to city residents. Among these services are HIV/AIDS services, family planning, maternity and specialized child health care, international travel immunizations, tuberculin testing, immunization clinics, sexually transmitted disease control and some eye, speech, dental and hearing services. Also included are early intervention services for children to age 3 with developmental delays. Fees are charged according to the patient's ability to pay.

The Affordable Health Care Clinics, at three locations in Fairfax County, provide comprehensive health services to persons with low incomes. For information, call **703-385-7894**.

The city participates in the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, a joint venture between the Dental Society and local governments. Adults with low incomes may receive basic dental service at minimal cost. For information, call **703-385-7894**.

WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Food Program provides grains, juices and milk (or formula) for eligible pregnant women and children younger than age 5. For information, call **703-246-7100**.

Notes

City residents may apply for health insurance for their children with the Fairfax County Department of Family Services Office of Program Partnerships. Participants may be eligible for a number of free or low-cost health insurance programs. Services are available for children from birth through age 18 who live in low-income families, and some programs are services offered to pregnant women. For information, call **703-324-5171**.

Citizens should call the Fairfax County Health Department for the following services:

- well and septic issues: **703-246-2201**
- restaurants and food safety issues: **703-246-2444**
- insect and rodent control, swimming pool issues: **703-246-2300**
- enforcement of environmental state and local health regulations and other general information: **703-246-2205**.

See also: Hospitals, Health Facilities.

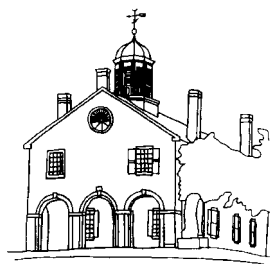
Historic Buildings and Sites.

The City of Fairfax's historic buildings and landmarks serve as a reminder of the community's heritage and attest to the important role Fairfax played as a major crossroads and judicial center in northern Virginia.

Most historic sites are located within the city's historic downtown area. In 1987, the City of Fairfax Historic District was named to the National Register of Historic Places. The district includes a variety of building types and styles, including the Fairfax Court House (1800), Ratcliffe-Allison House (1812), Gunnell House (1835), Ford House (1835), Fairfax Elementary School (1873, converted in 1992 into the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center), Old Fairfax Jail (1885), Old Town Hall (1900) and the Marr Monument (1904).

Free brochures provide a walking tour of noteworthy buildings and monuments in Old Town Fairfax and offer a brief history of the city. These brochures are available from the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street (**703-385-8414**), and at City Hall. Guided walking tours of the city's historic district periodically are offered by the museum; call **703-385-8414**.

Historic properties outside the Historic District illustrate the area's 19th century rural heritage



Fairfax County Courthouse

and 20th century transformation into a suburb of Washington, D.C. Blenheim, the brick farmhouse on Old Lee Highway, was built circa 1855 and is famed for its more than 100 inscriptions from Union soldiers when the Fairfax Court House area was occupied intermittently from 1862-65. Blenheim, which is on the National Register, is being restored and is open to the public during the annual Civil War Weekend held in June. The 29 Diner, built in 1940 on the Lee Highway commercial corridor, also is listed in the National Register.

Historic Fairfax City, Inc. (HFCI), a non-profit organization, helps the city interpret historic sites and raise funds for building preservation. HFCI is the advisory board to the city's Office of Historic Resources, charged with managing the operation of city-owned historic properties. HFCI always welcomes new members; for information, call **703-385-8415**.

See also: Blenheim; Civil War Weekend; History; Museum; Ratcliffe-Allison House and Kitty Pozer Garden.

Historic Resources. The city's Historic Resources Office oversees historic properties and programs. Managed through the City Manager's Office, the Historic Resources Office is housed in historic Ratcliffe-Allison House, 10386 Main Street; **703-273-5452**.

The Historic Resources Office also oversees the Capital Campaign for the Preservation of Historic Properties and the Capital Campaign Recognition Program.

History. The area that now comprises the City of Fairfax was first settled in the early 1700s by farmers migrating from Virginia's Tidewater region for religious and economic reasons.

Fairfax County was established in 1742. When Alexandria, where the county court was located, temporarily became a part of the District of Columbia, the county court was established at the corner of what was then called Little River Turnpike and Ox Road, a major regional crossroads then and now.

The little town surrounding the court was then known as Earp's Corner and in 1805, by an act of the state legislature, named the Town of Providence. However, for years it was commonly called "Fairfax

Notes

Court House" and was officially renamed Town of Fairfax in 1874.

Fairfax was the scene of several noteworthy events during the Civil War. Captain John Quincy Marr, the first officer casualty of the Confederacy, was killed at Fairfax Courthouse on June 1, 1861. By late 1862, Union forces under the command of Brigadier General Edwin H. Stoughton occupied the town. In an raid led by Confederate Colonel John S. Mosby in March of 1863, Stoughton was captured while he slept in a house belonging to Truro Episcopal Church.

Also in 1863, Antonia Ford, whose girlhood home was the Ford Building on Chain Bridge Road, was imprisoned as a Southern spy for aiding the Confederacy. Union Major Joseph C. Willard secured her release from prison after seven months, and they wed. Their son Joseph financed the building of Old Town Hall in 1900. The story of Antonia Ford is told in a special exhibit in Antonia's childhood home at 3977 Chain Bridge Road. The exhibit is a gift to the city from The Woman's Club of Fairfax.

Two other former private residences played a part in Fairfax history. The Ratcliffe-Allison House, the oldest residence in the city at 10386 Main Street, is open as a museum.

The residence on the city-owned Blenheim estate (3610 Old Lee Highway) housed Union soldiers during the Civil War, and graffiti written by soldiers has been found in Blenheim's attic.

Through the early 20th century, the Town of Fairfax remained a community of farms and small estates, with a tiny core of commerce, government and society in the few blocks surrounding the courthouse.

But in the 1950s and 1960s, Fairfax grew rapidly (including an almost 700 percent increase in population during the '50s). In 1961, the town was incorporated as the City of Fairfax.

The city's boundaries expanded in three directions as it grew to its present 6.3 square-miles. After an early-'70s peak of 22,700, the population has stabilized at around 21,000. However, new home construc-



Ford Building

tion is increasing the population yet again.

Residents are only part of the picture. Incredible growth and activity in and around the city — thriving local businesses, the development in neighboring Fairfax County

near the city's border and the expansion of George Mason University — increases the total population of the city during business and school hours to about 100,000.

Though this creates a need for more city services, the mix of commercial and residential property means city homeowners generate less than half of the city's revenues.

City residents enjoy many advantages that people in neighboring jurisdictions do not, including refuse collection and snow removal by the local government at no additional cost and tax rates as much as 30 percent lower than those of other jurisdictions.

The residents of the city's nearly 8,500 households have an estimated median household income of \$73,198 (higher than the state median). A third of the adult population has a college degree. In 2003, the average single-family detached home was assessed at \$322,877.

Fairfax, Virginia: A City Traveling Through Time is a book written by local historians that offers a broad view of Fairfax. The book is sold at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, along with a number of other books on the history of the region.

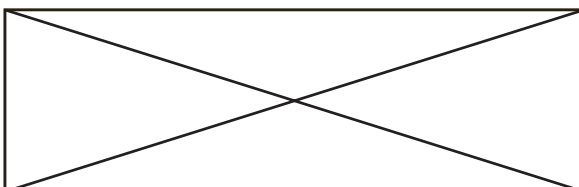
See also: Historic Buildings and Sites; Museum; Ratcliffe-Allison House and Kitty Pozer Garden.

Holiday Craft Show. The Holiday Craft Show is held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on a Saturday and Sunday in late November at Fairfax High School, 3500 Old Lee Highway.

About 300 vendors fill the school with their handcrafted items and Santa generally drops by for photo opportunities and to listen to children's requests.

For information, call the Department of Parks and Recreation at **703-385-7858**.

Home-Based Business.
See: Building Alterations, Inspections



Old Town Fairfax

Notes

Home Improvement Programs and Services. The city offers citizens a number of programs and services to assist with residential improvements through the Neighborhood Renaissance Program.

Adopt-A-Truck — Residents may borrow (“adopt”) a truck for home repair debris. Trucks are parked and locked at the requested location Friday afternoon and picked up Monday morning. The service is available only for do-it-yourself repairs and remodeling; contractors must dispose of their debris. A limited number of trucks are available for this popular service, so reserve a truck early by calling **703-385-7995**.

Contractor Reference Book — The Neighborhood Renaissance Program coordinator maintains a reference book that provides information on contractors that city residents have used. The book is available for viewing during normal business hours in Room 101 in City Hall. For information, call **703-385-7930**.

Home Repair Assistance Programs — Residents with a low to moderate income may be eligible for several home improvement programs, including Christmas in April, Home Repair for the Elderly and Hearts and Hammers. For information, call **703-385-7930**.

Neighborhood Renaissance Program — The city actively encourages the renovation and maintenance of its existing housing through the Neighborhood Renaissance Program. Neighborhood Renaissance is administered through the Department of Community Development and Planning. For information, call **703-385-7930**.

Tax Exemption — The city offers a partial real estate tax exemption to homeowners who substantially renovate their older home. The exemption program was created to encourage renovation and revitalization of aging residential structures. The exemption amount is based on the increased value of the residential structure that has been substantially rehabilitated, renovated or replaced. For information, call **703-385-7930**.

See also: Disability Service; Senior Citizens.

Home Improvements. *See: Building Permits; Home Improvement Programs and Services.*

Home Occupancy Permits. *See: Residential Use Permits.*

Homeless Shelters. *See: Shelters; Women’s Programs.*

Horticulturist. *See: Arborist; Extension Services; Tree Planting.*

Hospitals, Health Facilities. City residents are served by a myriad of health services in and near the city. For emergency ambulance service to these facilities, dial **911** (voice/TTY).

Fairfax Nursing Center, 10701 Main Street, provides medical care for patients age 18 and older. This includes long-term care, short-term or respite care, sub-acute care and dementia care. For information, call **703-273-7705**.

Inova Commonwealth Care Center is a modern, 137-bed nursing home for long-term care. The center is located at 4315 Chain Bridge Road; **703-934-5060**; www.inova.com.

Inova Emergency Care of Fairfax, 4315 Chain Bridge Road, offers 24-hour emergency care for both minor and life-threatening illnesses and injuries. Laboratory and x-ray services are available on-site, and rapid helicopter evacuation to Fairfax Hospital’s trauma unit is available for critically ill and injured patients. For information, call **703-591-9322**; www.inova.com.

Inova Fair Oaks Hospital, 3600 Joseph Siewick Drive, phone **703-391-3600**, www.inova.com, is a 151-bed facility located near the city. The hospital provides a full range of emergency, medical, surgical, critical, orthopedic, obstetric and pediatric care services. Extensive diagnostic and outpatient services also are offered.

Inova Fairfax Hospital, 3300 Gallows Road, phone **703-698-1110**, www.inova.com, located near the intersection of the Capital Beltway and Route 50, offers surgical, medical, obstetric, neo-natal, pediatric, psychiatric and trauma care. The 656-bed hospital, the largest in Northern Virginia, also provides outpatient clinics, diagnostic services and a fully staffed emergency department for around-the-clock service.

Sunrise at George Mason Assisted Living Center, 4300 George Mason Boulevard, provides assisted living for seniors who can no longer live on their own at home but who do not need skilled nursing care. Sunrise is affiliated with Inova Health Care Systems, a non-profit health system. For information, call **703-934-5069** or visit www.sunrise-al.com.

The **Woodburn Mental Health Center** at 3340 Woodburn Road in

Annandale offers publicly funded mental health services for city residents; call **703-573-0523** (emergency 24-hour service: **703-573-5679**). Among the mental health services available are emergency service and treatment, individual and group psychotherapy for children and adults, services to the chronically mentally ill, residential-based treatment services, court-related services and a prevention program. The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 836; **703-324-7000**) administers all publicly funded mental health programs.

Hotlines. Assistance is available 24 hours from these phone numbers:

- Adult Protective Services: **703-324-7450**
- Children Protective Services: **703-324-7400**
- Crisislink Hotline: **703-527-4077**
- Poison Control Center: **(202) 625-3333**
- Rape Crisis Hotline: **703-360-7273**
- Victim Assistance: **703-360-7273**
- Victim/Witness Services: **703-246-2141**
- Women's Shelter: **703-435-4940**
- Woodburn Mental Health Center Emergency Line: **703-573-5679**

See also: Children; Disability Services; Senior Citizens; Women's Programs.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal. Residents may take household hazardous waste, such as insecticides and household cleaners, to the I-66 Citizens Recycling and Disposal Facility at 4618 West Ox Road (www.fairfaxcounty.gov). This site is open 1 - 5 p.m. Thursdays, 8 a.m. to noon Fridays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays. For information, call **703-324-5068**.

The city's Recycling Center accepts batteries, used motor oil and motor oil filters. The center is located at the Property Yard, 3410 Pickett Road, and has 24-hour access. For information, call **703-385-7995**.

The city publishes *How to Dispose of Items in the City*, a flyer that provides information on disposal and recycling centers available to city residents. For a copy of the flyer, visit the city's web site or call **703-385-7855**.

See also: Refuse Service.

Housing Assistance Programs. The City of Fairfax participates in the

federally-funded Community Development Block Grant Program. Under the Home Improvement Loan Program, eligible citizens may receive loans for renovations or home improvements.

As part of the block-grant program, the city also participates in the Home Repair Program for the Elderly, which provides minor home repairs for income-eligible senior citizens as well as handicapped homeowners of any age.

Under the U.S. Department of Housing and Human Services Section 8 Existing Housing Program, low-income households are eligible for rental assistance in the city.

All housing assistance programs are administered for the city by the Fairfax County Housing and Community Development Authority. For information about home-improvement loans and home repair for the elderly and disabled, call **703-385-7930**; for information about the Section 8 Housing Program, call **703-385-3662**.

See also: Shelters; Social Services.

Huddleson Library. *See: Library.*

Human Services. Citizens who need help in locating community resources for human services may contact the Human Services Office in City Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays; **703-385-7894** (voice/TTY). After business hours, residents may call the 24-hour Crisislink Hotline at **703-527-4077**.

See also: Shelters; Social Services.

Hunting. A state license is required to hunt in Virginia; however, hunting is prohibited within the City of Fairfax. Licenses are available from area hardware and sporting goods stores. For information, contact the Virginia Commission on Game and Inland Fisheries, P.O. Box 11104 Richmond, VA 23220; **(804) 367-9369**.

I

Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS). INS has been changed to the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS) and made a part of the Department of Homeland Security. The nearest BCIS office is 4420 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203. For information, call **703-525-8141**; www.bcis.gov.

See also: Citizenship; Green Card.

Immunizations. Virginia law

Notes

requires that every new student in both public and private schools be immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, measles, rubella and mumps. Without proof of required immunizations, students will not be allowed to attend school. Objections based on religious grounds may be discussed with the principals of the students' schools.

Routine and international travel immunizations are provided at the Willard Health Center, 3750 Old Lee Highway. For information, call **703-246-7100** or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

See also: Schools.

Income Tax, State and Federal.

State income taxes are required of every person who lived in Virginia during the tax year or maintained a residence in Virginia for more than 183 days (provided their Virginia adjusted gross income is above the filing threshold). Income and exemptions are prorated for less than a full year. For forms and assistance, contact the Commissioner of the Revenue at **703-385-7882**.

The federal government operates a tax information and assistance office at 5205 Leesburg Pike in Bailey's Crossroads. For inquiries, call **(800) 829-1040**.

The city Commissioner of the Revenue's Office provides free assistance with federal and state tax returns from February through mid-April; **703-385-7880**.

Free assistance with federal taxes also is provided from February through mid-April to all city residents by volunteers from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) trained by the Internal Revenue Service and by Volunteer Tax Information Assistance (VITA). For information, contact the Human Services Office; **703-385-7894**.

Independence Day Celebration. The city hosts many festivities to celebrate Independence Day.

The city's Independence Day Parade begins at 10 a.m. rain or shine, stepping off from the Massey Building and winding through the downtown historic area.

During the afternoon, fire-fighters from around the region compete in an old-fashioned firefighters' competition, the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center holds an open house and many historic buildings are open for tours.

An evening show featuring entertainment and fireworks is held at

Fairfax High School's Stalnaker Stadium (rain date for fireworks only is the following day). For information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at **703-385-7858**.

When July 4 falls on a Sunday, festivities are held either the day before or the day after; for information, call **703-385-7858**.

Information. *See: Community Relations.*

Information Technology. The Department of Information Technology (IT) provides leadership and guidance to city departments in the introduction and use of new technologies that enhance city services to citizens.

The staff provides an array of technical services and products for city management, staff, elected officials and citizens. Among these services are development and implementation of the strategic IT plan, centralized computer support for municipal functions, software and database analysis and design, security of electronically-stored information, microcomputer and peripheral support, and local and wide-area network communication design and implementation.

IT has developed a strategic plan that identifies recommended projects and initiatives for near-and long-term deployment. For information, call **703-385-7895**.

IT manages the city's web site (www.fairfaxva.gov), which contains information about the city government and services, as well as links to community sites.

Also managed by IT is an interactive kiosk at the Fairfax City Regional Library (and other Fairfax County government centers). The kiosk, titled CRIS (Community Resident Information System), offers information about government services, transportation and tourism. CRIS is a cooperative project with Fairfax County and regional service providers.

Inoperable Motor Vehicles. *See: Automobiles.*

Inspections. Inspections of non-building improvements on commercial and residential development sites and right-of-way work requiring a street opening permit may be arranged by calling **703-385-7828**.

See also: Building Alterations, Inspections and Permits; Right-of-Way Permits.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The nearest office of the IRS (www.irs.gov) is in Bailey's Crossroads, Va. For live telephone assistance, call **(800) 829-1040**.

J

Jail. *See: Detention Facilities.*

Jury Duty. City residents may be chosen for jury duty in federal court and Fairfax County Circuit Court. Jurors are selected from state DMV records and from voter registration rolls.

Citizens who receive a summons for jury duty must respond, or they could be found in contempt of court. Jury notices will list contact information, based on the court where potential jurors are summoned.

Juvenile Cases (Family Court). *See: Court.*

K

Kiosk. An interactive multimedia kiosk with information about government services and regional attractions has been set up at the Fairfax City Regional Library. The kiosk, named CRIS (Community Resident Information System), is a cooperative project with Fairfax County. Additional kiosks are located in area government offices, shopping malls and libraries.

See also: Information Technology.

L

Landlord/Tenant Issues. For landlord/tenant disputes or problems, call the Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs at **(800) 552-9963**.

Lawn Care. *See: Extension Services.*

Lawn Concerts. *See: Concerts.*

Lawyers. *See: Attorneys.*

Leaf Collection. The city operates leaf-collecting vehicles throughout the city from mid-October through the end of December and in April, the city's Spring Clean-up Month. Citizens should rake leaves to the curb for pickup, making sure only leaves are left for collection. Stone, brush and other debris will damage machinery,

delay pickup and injure workers.

Because leaf trucks circulate among different neighborhoods, there is no set collection schedule.

During other times of the year, leaves must be raked into paper or plastic bags or into trash cans marked "yard waste" and placed at the curb, separate from trash, for collection on trash collection days. Leaves are not collected with trash — leaves are banned from the Fairfax County landfill, which the city uses.

The city's air pollution ordinance prohibits all open burning of leaves and other yard waste.

The leaf collection schedule is published in The Cityscene and posted on Cityscreen-12. For information, call **703-385-7995**.

Legal Assistance. *See: Attorneys.*

Library. Library services are provided to city residents under a contract agreement with Fairfax County. The Fairfax City Regional Library at 3915 Chain Bridge Road contains the largest number of books of the county's 21 libraries; **703-293-6227**.

The Virginia Room in the library is an excellent resource for Virginia history and genealogy; **703-293-6383**.

The library provides reference services, video cassettes, newspapers, magazines, tapes, compact discs, talking and large-print books, business/technical and Virginia collections, Internet access, copy machines and meeting rooms. There is a fee for some of these services. For information, call **703-293-6227** or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

The hours for the Fairfax City Regional Library are:

- Monday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Friday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday: noon to 6 p.m.

The Huddleson Library Board of Trustees operates a lending library on the second floor of Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive. Huddleson Library is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and Friday, and features an excellent selection of recent bestsellers, regional histories and one of the area's best collections of mystery and detective novels. For information, call **703-273-2377**.

Licenses and Plates. *See: Automobiles.*

Licenses and Permits. *See information under individual listing.*

Notes

Little League. *See: Children.*

M

Magistrate. *See: Courts.*

Maps. Free street maps of the city are available from the Department of Public Works in the Green Acres Center. Other city maps, tax maps, zoning maps, flood plain maps, topographic maps, etc. are available for a nominal fee. For information, call **703-385-7817**.

Marriage Certificates. The Fairfax County Circuit Court maintains a record of all certified marriages licensed by Fairfax County Circuit Court (www.fairfaxcounty.gov). Copies of these certificates are available in person or by mail from the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Third Floor, Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road. The cost is \$2.50 each (cash or, if request is by mail, by money order made payable to the Clerk of the Court).

If requested by mail, include a return address and daytime phone number, and allow at least three weeks for delivery.

To apply for a copy of a certificate, include the full name of the groom and the bride (including the bride's maiden name) and the date of marriage. For information, call **703-246-4100**.

A copy of a marriage certificate also can be obtained from the Virginia Department of Health in Richmond (www.vdh.state.va.us). Marriage certificates are available only to immediate family members, and those making the request must include a photocopy of their ID with the request. Include the information listed above and a check or money order for \$10 — made payable to the State Health Department — and mail to the Division of Vital Records, P.O. Box 1000, Richmond, VA 23208-1000. Allow ample time for processing and mailing of the certificate. For information, call **(804) 662-6200**.

VitalChek (www.vitalchek.com) offers expedited service for ordering marriage certificates; call **(804) 644-2723** or **(804) 644-2537**.

Marriage Licenses. Marriage licenses are issued by the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Third Floor, Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road. The fee is \$30 cash.

Both parties must appear before

the clerk to obtain a license and bring valid identification (current driver's license, military ID or passport). Both parties must provide their Social Security numbers. Applicants who are not U.S. residents must bring their current passports.

Applicants ages 16-18 must appear with a parent who has valid identification. The court will provide a special affidavit for the parents' signature.

Neither blood tests nor witnesses are required, and there is no waiting period once the license is issued. The license is valid for 60 days. The marriage must take place in Virginia. For information, call **703-691-7320** then press 3, 6, 1, 2 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Marriages are not performed in the Clerk's office, but applicants may get a list of marriage celebrants (a ceremony by a celebrant costs \$30).

Meals Tax. In addition to the state sales tax, the city levies a tax on all prepared food and drink sold in the city.

See also: Taxes.

Medicaid. *See: Social Services.*

Mental Health Services. The Woodburn Mental Health Center offers publicly funded mental health services for city residents. It is located at 3340 Woodburn Road, Annandale; **703-573-0523** (emergency 24-hour service: **703-573-5679**).

Among the mental health services available are emergency service and treatment, individual and group psychotherapy for children and adults, services to the chronically mentally ill, residential-based treatment services, court-related services and a prevention program.

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 836; **703-324-7000**) administers all mental health programs.

See also: Hospitals, Health Facilities.

Mental Retardation Services. The Community Services Board provides a number of services for persons with mental retardation and their families, including information and referral, adaptive skills training, work skills development, sheltered and competitive employment opportunities, case-management services and respite and residential placement.

Notes

For information, contact the Community Services Board Case Management Center, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 303; **703-324-4400** or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Metro. The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (www.wmata.com) operates buses and a rapid-rail train system commonly called "Metro" throughout the metropolitan Washington area.

The nearest Metrorail station is the Vienna/Fairfax-GMU station about a mile north of the city. The city's CUE Bus system travels to that station. Parking also is available at the station, although it does fill up rapidly on weekdays. For scheduling and fare information, call **202-637-7000** from 6 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on weekdays and weekends from 8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

MetroAccess Paratransit Services provides transportation for disabled city residents who travel out of the city limits within the WMATA service area. MetroAccess applications are available from the Transportation Office in City Hall. For information, call **(301) 562-5361 (TTY: 301-588-7535)**.

Miss Utility. To locate city water lines and other underground utilities, contact Miss Utility 48 hours in advance of digging at **(800) 552-7001**.

Motor Vehicles. *See: Automobiles; DMV.*

Mulch. The city contracts with Fairfax County for use of its mulching facility. Citizens may pick up mulch from the Fairfax County I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road. Hours are 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. For information, call **703-324-5040**.

The city's Department of Public Works delivers mulch to neighborhoods upon request by civic associations. For information, call **703-385-7995**.

Museum. The Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week (except some major holidays and during inclement weather).

The museum is

located in the historic Fairfax Elementary School Annex at 10209 Main Street and focuses on the history of Northern Virginia. The museum also offers tourist information for the area and a brochure outlining a walking tour of historic Old Town Fairfax. The building is handicap-accessible and has an elevator to the second floor. For information, call **703-385-8414**.

The Ratcliffe-Allison House, one of the city's oldest buildings, offers insight into life in early Fairfax. Tours of the Ratcliffe-Allison House, 10386 Main Street, can be arranged. For hours and tour information, call **703-385-8414**.

See also: Ratcliffe-Allison House and Kitty Pozer Garden.

N

Name Changes. Name changes for adults and children are handled by the Fairfax County Circuit Court on the third floor of the Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road; www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Those who wish to change their name need to get the proper documents from a sample book in the clerk's office, Room 337 in the Judicial Center. Copies of the documents can be obtained from the copy center for a fee. The documents can be notarized in the building, copied (for a fee) as required by law and filed the same day if the petitioner has proper identification. The filing fee is \$31 cash.

Name changes can be done by mail by sending the proper documents (notarized) to the office with a \$31 money order. Mail the request to Clerk of the Circuit Court, Third Floor, Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030. Allow at least two weeks for processing of the documents. For more information, call **703-691-7320**, then press 3, 1, 4, 3.

In divorce proceedings, name changes are part of the final divorce decree (if the request is specified).

Neighborhood Renaissance Program. *See: Home Improvement Programs and Services.*

Newsline. The city has the following newslines:



Notes

- Arts Information Line: **703-352-ARTS**
- Fire and Rescue Services Newsline: **703-352-7984**
- Police Information Newsline: **703-385-7956**

Newspaper Recycling. *See: Recycling Service.*

Non-Residential Use Permits.

Before a business may occupy space or open in the city, the proprietor must apply for a non-residential use permit from the Zoning Office.

When a permit application is submitted, the zoning administrator reviews of the application and the Code Administration Office performs an occupancy inspection of the building. If improvements are required before occupancy, the zoning administrator ensures all required repairs and inspections are conducted. For information, call **703-385-7820**.

Northern Virginia Community College. *See: Colleges and Universities.*

Notary Information. To become a notary public, a citizen must be at least 18 years of age, live or work in Virginia, read and write English, and never have been convicted of a felony.

To become a notary or to renew a notary commission, applicants must follow the same procedures. A notary application may be obtained by mail or in person. To receive an application by mail, send a written request and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Fairfax County Circuit Court, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030, Attention: Notary Clerk. The notary office, located on the third floor of the building, is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

On the notary application, complete sections 1 - 3. Return the application and a check for \$35 made payable to the Treasurer of Virginia. The application and fee may be returned either in person or by mail to the Fairfax County Circuit Court, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030, Attention: Notary Clerk. A deputy clerk will complete part 4 of the form and will forward the notary application along with the check to the Secretary of The Commonwealth in Richmond for processing.

In four to six weeks, a letter will be sent from Richmond

stating the commission has been sent to the location requested. The Fairfax County Courthouse will receive the commission within five business days after the letter arrives from Richmond.

The applicant must appear in person to take an oath and receive the commission. The applicant must bring identification and a fee of \$10. Either cash or a check made payable to the Clerk of Court is acceptable. An oath will be administered to the applicant and the commission will then be given. Applicants are seen on a walk-in basis from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

For information on becoming a notary, call **703-691-7320**, then press 3, 6, 2 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Many employees of the City of Fairfax are notaries, and are available to notarize documents at no charge during regular business hours. For information, call **703-385-7855**.

Nursing Homes. *See: Assisted Living Residences; Hospitals, Health Facilities.*

O

Occupancy Permits. An occupancy permit must be issued before a new single-family home is occupied and before a non-resident property owner rents or leases a single-family house. Permits are issued by the Code Administration Office; **703-385-7830**.

See also: Rental Occupancy Permits; Residential Use Permits.

Old Town Hall. Old Town Hall, owned by the city and a landmark of its nationally recognized historic district, is available for rent, for community use and for social and business functions.

Built in 1900 and presented to town citizens by Joseph E. Willard, the classical-style structure has a modern kitchen and bathroom facilities.

On the second floor of Old Town Hall is Huddleson Library, open from 1-5 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. Also on the second floor is a gallery featuring the work of local artists of the Fairfax Art League, open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.

The building is fully accessible and has an elevator to the second floor.



Notes

For information or to schedule use of Old Town Hall, call **703-385-7858**.

See also: Library.

Old Town Hall Lecture Series.

Four times each year, the city and George Mason University host speakers from the university to speak on a variety of topics. The purpose of the lecture series is to acquaint city residents with the quality of expertise available at GMU. For information, call **703-993-8846**.

Overgrown Lots / Vegetation.

Property owners are responsible for cutting grass and other vegetation on their property, whether the property is in use or vacant. If grass and weeds reach one foot in height or higher on any property, the Department of Public Works will issue a notice requiring weeds to be cut within 10 days. If this is not done, the city will post a notice on the property and, after 10 days, cut the offending vegetation at the property owner's expense. For information, call **703-385-7995**.

Oversized Vehicles. *See: Automobiles; Hauling Permits.*

P

Parking. *See: Automobiles; Parking Permits; Parking Tickets.*

Parking Permits. Residents in a few neighborhoods in the city must display on their vehicles a special city decal that includes a residential parking permit. These neighborhoods have signs advertising the need for these special permits issued by the Treasurer's Office in City Hall.

The neighborhoods requiring parking permits are those near George Mason University, Fairfax High School and other areas in which there is a problem of non-residents congesting the streets with parked cars. Visitors who park in these neighborhoods also need special permits. For information, call **703-385-7900**.

Parking Tickets. Parking tickets issued by the City of Fairfax Police are processed through a contracted vendor. For information on payment of parking tickets, call **(888) 609-PARK**. However, if a ticket has gone to summons, contact the city's General District Court; **703-385-7866**.

Parks. The quality of life in the

city is enhanced by the existence of open space, parkland and a varied recreational program. The city maintains more than 150 acres of parkland and athletic facilities. Citizens help maintain and enhance city parkland through the Adopt-a-Park and Gifts for Parks programs. The Parks and Recreation Department schedules use of all athletic fields in city parks. The department also schedules park picnic shelters for community use. For information about these programs and facilities, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 3730 Old Lee Highway; **703-385-7858**.

Perhaps the most popular city park, Van Dyck Park on Old Lee Highway covers 20 acres and includes sheltered picnic facilities, a lighted basketball court, an exercise trail, four lighted tennis courts, a tot lot, three large multipurpose play areas and an activity center with a slide, tire swing and balance beam. The largest park, 48-acre Daniels Run, separates the Little River Hills and Old Lee Hills subdivisions. The heavily wooded site includes a picnic shelter with grills, playground equipment and bike paths.

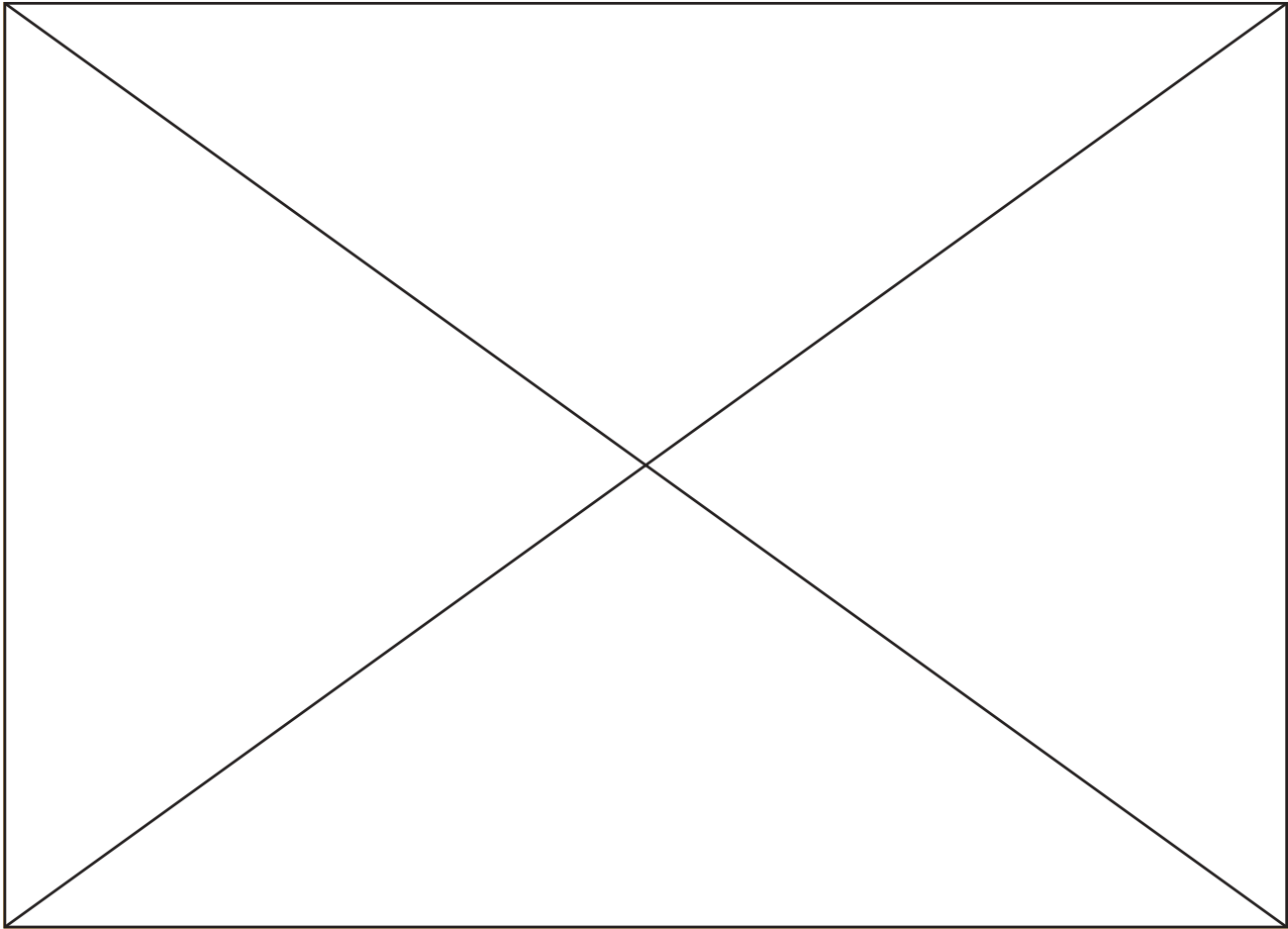
Providence Park, which covers 17 acres at the end of West Drive, and 18-acre Ranger Road Park also are heavily wooded and equipped with a variety of innovative playground equipment. Park facilities include paved basketball courts, sheltered picnic areas with grills and, at Providence Park, a tennis court.

At the western edge of the city is Kutner Park, which has a tennis court, soccer field and an activity center. In addition, smaller parks and several lighted ballfields are scattered throughout the city.

An agreement with Fairfax County allows city residents to use county parks and recreation programs. The county's parks system offers more than 14,000 acres of parkland and a variety of facilities, including neighborhood, community, district and historic parks, nature study and recreation centers, skating rinks, swimming pools, marinas, public golf courses, tennis courts, playing fields, paths and trails, as well as special activities and programs. For information on county park facilities and programs, call the 24-hour park hotline at **703-324-8700**.

The City of Fairfax annually contributes to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) and city residents may enter the parks free

Notes



City of Fairfax Parks and Fields • Information: 703-385-7858

1. **Cobbdale Park**, *Burrows and Howerton avenues* — Playground equipment
2. **Dale Lestina Park**, *Plantation Parkway* — Playground equipment
3. **Daniels Run Elementary School**, *3705 Old Lee Highway* — Playground equipment; practice soccer fields; softball fields; indoor activity rooms
4. **Daniels Run Park**, *Heritage Lane, Embassy Lane, Tedrich Boulevard and Estel Road* — Bike/hike/jog trail; picnic shelter; small tot lot
5. **Draper Drive Park**, *Beech Drive* — Bike trail; multi-use field; soccer fields
6. **Fairchester Woods Park**, *Warwick Avenue* — Basketball court; park benches; playground equipment
7. **Fairfax High School**, *3500 Old Lee Highway* — Baseball fields; softball fields; indoor and outdoor basketball courts; racquetball courts; tennis courts; outdoor track; weight rooms
8. **Gateway Park**, *Old Pickett Road* — Bike trail pavilion; park benches
9. **Green Acres Center**, *4401 Sideburn Road* — Outdoor basketball court; Little League field; playground equipment; soccer fields; indoor activity rooms
10. **Keith Avenue Park**, *Keith Avenue* — Football field; Little League fields; playground equipment
11. **Kutner Park**, *Jermantown Road and Route 50* — Hiking trail; horseshoe pit; picnic shelter; play equipment; soccer field; tennis court; volleyball court
12. **Sidney Lanier Middle School**, *3710 Bevan Drive* — Indoor and outdoor basketball courts; soccer fields; Little League field; indoor activity rooms
13. **Providence Elementary School**, *3616 Jermantown Road* — Outdoor basketball court; practice football fields; playground equipment; softball fields; Little League fields; indoor activity rooms
14. **Providence Park**, *West Drive* — Large paved basketball court; bike/hike trail; picnic shelter; playground equipment; tennis court
15. **Ranger Road Park**, *Ranger Road* — Paved basketball court; picnic area; playground equipment
16. **Ratcliffe Park**, *Locust Street and Sager Avenue* — Basketball courts; Little League field; small multipurpose field; playground equipment
17. **Thaiss Memorial Park**, *Pickett Road* — Little League fields; picnic shelter; playground equipment
18. **Westmore Elementary School**, *11000 Berry Street* — Outdoor basketball court; Little League/softball field; playground equipment; soccer/football practice field; indoor activity rooms
19. **Westmore Park**, *Fern and Oakwood streets* — Basketball court; picnic shelter; playground equipment; practice tennis court
20. **Van Dyck Park**, *3500 Old Lee Highway* — Lighted basketball court; exercise trail; multipurpose play areas; picnic shelters; playground equipment; lighted tennis courts; sand volleyball court
21. **John C. Wood Municipal Complex**, *3730 Old Lee Highway* — Little League practice field; indoor activity room

of charge. The authority operates 19 parks in Northern Virginia, 10 of which are in Fairfax County. These parks offer 10,000 acres of hiking, picnicking, boating, fishing, camping and many other outdoor recreational activities. NVRPA offices are located at 5400 Ox Road, Fairfax; **703-352-5900**.

Passports. U.S. passport applications and renewal passport applications are available on the Internet at www.travel.state.gov or at the nearest U.S. Passport Office located at 10449 White Granite Drive, Oakton, VA 22124; **703-359-5694**. Different applications are required for passport renewal and new passport applications.

Applicants must apply for a new passport if:

- this is the applicant's first passport
- the previous passport was lost, stolen or damaged
- the previous passport expired more than 15 years ago
- the applicant was younger than 16 when the first passport was issued
- the applicant's name has changed since the passport was issued and the applicant cannot produce a legal document proving the name change
- the applicant is a minor child age 14 or older.

A renewal application must be completed if the applicant was 16 years of age or older when the last passport was issued, and the passport was issued within the last 15 years.

Those who do not currently have a passport or do not meet the renewal qualifications must have the following three items to apply for a passport:

- proof of citizenship (such as a certified copy of a birth certificate, expired passport or naturalization certificate);
- two 2x2-inch identical photographs with a white background;
- and a photo identification with an identifying number and expiration date. Children age 13 and younger or children with no identification of their own may use their parents' identification for this process.

Applicants ages 14-17 must appear in person with a parent, and both parent and applicant must sign the passport application. For a child younger than age 14, the parent must complete the application and the child need not appear.

Personal checks are accepted for passport fees; please make checks

payable to "U.S. Department of State." For applicants age 16 and older, the fee is \$85. For applicants younger than age 16, the fee is \$70.

To request a passport application or renewal passport application by mail, send a written request and a self-addressed stamped envelope to National Passport Center, P.O. Box 371971, Pittsburgh, PA, 15250-9971. For a passport application, please request the "DS-11 Application for Passport." For a renewal passport application, please request "DS-82 Application for Passport By Mail."

Most passport agencies accept passport applications in person only by appointment; call **703-359-5694** to make an appointment at the nearest office (10449 White Granite Drive, Oakton, Va.).

Allow up to six weeks for the passport application to be processed.

The National Passport Service will answer passport-related questions for a fee; **(888) 362-8668**.

For an expedited passport, call the Washington Passport Agency at **202-647-0518**; travel.state.gov. Appointments are accepted from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays at 1111 19th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20524. To qualify for expedited service, applicants must be able to document that they have travel plans in the next 14 calendar days.

Peddling, Canvassing and Soliciting. All non-profit and for-profit organizations must have a city permit to peddle, canvass or solicit for funds or to conduct sales. Call the City of Fairfax Police Department at **703-385-7955** to apply for a peddling permit.

Citizens are encouraged to ask all solicitors who visit a residence or business to show their peddling permit. If they fail to display a permit or do not have one, please report this to the city police at **703-385-7924**.

City police and fire departments solicit funds on behalf of their own organizations. The *Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department* mails a donation letter twice a year; for information, call 703-352-8945.

The *Fairfax City Police Association* would provide solicitation on behalf of the City of Fairfax Police Department; for information, call **703-385-7914**.

The City of Fairfax Fire Department employees are members of the City of Fairfax Professional Firefighters and Paramedics Association and participate with the *Northern Virginia Coalition of Professional*

Firefighters to solicit funds; for information, call **703-385-7941**.

Permits and Licenses. See information under individual listing.

Personal Property Tax. City residents who own motor vehicles, boats, campers or trailers are subject to a personal property tax. The Commissioner of the Revenue's Office sends personal property tax notices to citizens in the spring, and only citizens who have changes to their notice are required to reply. Forms are supplied by the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office; **703-385-7883**.

The Commissioner of the Revenue's Office assesses the value of personal property. The City Council sets the rate of the property tax rate, and personal property taxes are due October 5 to the City Treasurer.

Citizens must file personal property reports within 60 days of a vehicle being garaged in the city (i.e., owners purchasing a vehicle or moving into the city). After 60 days, owners are assessed a penalty of 10 percent of the tax. Personal property taxes are prorated. For information, call **703-385-7884**.

The commonwealth plans to phase out personal property taxes on the first \$20,000 of a vehicle's value. However, until the tax is eliminated, citizens are responsible for the payment of the amount billed by the Treasurer's Office. There are no exemptions from personal property tax. For information, call **703-385-7900**.

See also: *Taxes*.

Pest Problems. Tree and plant insect infestations are managed by the Fairfax County Master Gardener Association; **703-324-5393**; www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Rodent and vector control is managed by the Fairfax County Health Department; **703-246-2435**.

See also: *Extension Services; Health Department, Health Services*.

Phone Book Recycling. See: *Recycling Service*.

Photo Red Light Program. To deter drivers from running red lights, the city has set up cameras to monitor several city intersections. Violators are fined \$50.

The system detects when a vehicle enters the intersection during the red phase of the traffic signal cycle. Two photos automatically are

taken: one of the vehicle entering the intersection and one of the vehicle at the far side of the intersection. A summons with the photographs is mailed to the vehicle's registered owner.

Vehicle owners can swear an affidavit to the General District Court stating they were not driving the car, and the violation will be dismissed. For information, call **703-385-7866**.

Planning. See: *Community Development and Planning*.

Plats. The Department of Community Development and Planning maintains copies of plats for city house locations and subdivisions. House location plats are detailed drawings that give the dimensions and locations of structures on a specific parcel of land. Plats for city subdivisions show easements, road dedications, and the actual subdivision of land into lots. Citizens may view plats or obtain copies by visiting the Zoning Office in City Hall or calling **703-385-7820**.

House location plats do not show easements on the property, but easement information is available in the Department of Community Development and Planning in City Hall; **703-385-7930**.

Playground Program. See: *Children; Recreation Programs*.

Poisoning. Call the Poison Control Center at **(202) 625-3333**.

Police. In emergencies, call **703-591-5511** (TTY: **703-359-2480**).

Law enforcement, including patrol and detective services, crime prevention and community service activities, is carried out by the City of Fairfax Police Department. The department is located in the John C. Wood Municipal Complex, 3730 Old Lee Highway. The central non-emergency number is **703-385-7924** (TTY: **703-359-2480**).

The police department participates in several crime prevention, youth services, community relations and traffic safety programs. These programs include D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), Block Watch and McGruff House programs, Operation ID and residential and commercial burglary prevention. The Police Chief's Citizens Advisory Council meets regularly with the police chief to address citizen concerns.



Notes

For information about any of these programs, contact the police community services officer at **703-385-7975**.

Pools. The city does not have municipal pools. However, the Oak Marr Recreation Center, a regional facility located just outside the city at 3200 Jermantown Road in Oakton, has pool facilities; 703-281-6501.

Also, citizens may purchase memberships at a number of community pools. The community pools in the city are Country Club Hills Pool (3623 Old Post Road), Fairfax Pool (4200 Roberts Road) and Mosby Woods Pool (3134 Plantation Parkway). These pools are managed by the civic association of the neighborhood in which the pool is located. For contact numbers for these community pools, call the Community Relations Office at **703-385-7855**.

Post Office. City residents are served by two post offices. Residents with the zip code 22030 are served by the Fairfax City Post Office, 3951 Chain Bridge Road; **(800) 275-8777**.

Residents with the zip code 22031 or 22032 are served by the Turnpike Post Office, 3601 Pickett Road; **(800) 275-8777**.

Public Works. The Department of Public Works provides a full spectrum of citizen services. Public Works maintains roadways, curbs, gutters and sidewalks; administers construction contracts; and maintains traffic signals, signs, storm drainage and lighting. The department also is in charge of sanitation, recycling, maintaining facilities and rights-of-way and beautification.

Public Works administration offices have been temporarily relocated to the Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road. For information, call **703-385-7810**.

See also: Curbside Collection/Recycling Program; Leaf Collection; Recycling Service; Refuse Service; Storm Drainage; Street Maintenance; Traffic Signals; Traffic Signs; Tree Planting.

Purchasing. Those who wish to bid on projects, services and supplies for the city may place their names on a bid list. Call the Purchasing Office at **703-385-7875**.

Q

Quick Reference Numbers. "Quick Reference Numbers" are listed in the Community Handbook.

R

Radon. For a free information packet about radon gas, call the Fairfax County Environmental Health and Radon Hotline at **703-246-2541**; www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

A radon map on the second floor of City Hall shows the levels of radon in the region and provides information and a news release on radon.

Ratcliffe-Allison House and Kitty Pozer Garden. Built by Richard Ratcliffe in 1812, the Ratcliffe-Allison House at 10386 Main Street is the oldest house in the City of Fairfax. In 1973, the Ratcliffe-Allison House was the first city-owned building to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.



The oldest section of the house, the eastern portion, was built by Richard Ratcliffe around 1812.

Behind the house is the Kitty Pozer Garden, named after the woman who gave the house to the city. For open hours and tour information, call **703-385-8414**.

Real Estate Assessments, Taxes. Real estate in the city is assessed and taxed annually, and payment is due semi-annually on June 5 and December 5.

The Real Estate Assessments Office in City Hall assesses the value of real property and the City Council sets the tax rate in the annual budget, which is adopted in April. To find out the current tax rate, call **703-385-7870**.

All assessments reflect the property's fair market value and must be equitable with comparable properties. Real estate assessments are effective January 1 of each year and are at 100 percent of fair market value. As defined in the Commonwealth of Virginia, fair market value is "the price a property will bring when it is offered for sale by one who desires, but is not obligated, to sell it and is bought by one who is under no necessity of having it."

The City of Fairfax real estate

Notes

database is available online at the city's web site.

Property owners who disagree with their assessments may appeal to the Real Estate Assessments Office and, if necessary, to a three-member Board of Equalization.

For information about real estate assessments, call **703-385-7840**. For information on real estate tax payments, call **703-385-7904**.

Real estate tax relief benefits are available to eligible senior citizens and permanently disabled city residents. For information, call **703-385-7870**.

The city offers a partial real estate tax exemption to residential and business property owners who substantially renovate their older building. The exemption is 100 percent of the added value for the first five years after the renovations are completed, then offered on a sliding scale during the next five years. Only renovations completed with the proper permits and inspections are eligible for the exemption. For information on real estate tax exemptions for residential property, call **703-385-7930**. For information on commercial real estate tax exemptions, call **703-385-7930**.

See also: Businesses; Disability Services; Home Improvement Programs and Services; Taxes; Tax Exemption Programs; Senior Citizens.

Recreation Programs. The Department of Parks and Recreation provides all age groups with a wide variety of year-round leisure activities. Programs include classes in tennis, dance, karate, gymnastics, aerobics and a variety of recreational and cultural activities for children, teens, adults and senior citizens. In addition, the department sponsors bus trips to many sporting and cultural events.

Times and locations of upcoming programs are publicized in *The Cityscene*, on Cityscreen-12 and on the city web site.

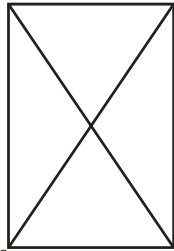
An 8-week playground program for city youngsters from preschool-age to ninth grade is conducted each summer at city schools. The program offers sports and games, swimming, films and field trips, arts and crafts and special events. The program operates from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekdays from June through early August.

In conjunction with the playground program, extended hours are offered from 7-9 a.m. and from 3-6

p.m. in some elementary schools. The Teen Center is open at Fairfax High School in the summer; **703-385-7858**.

The Department of Parks and Recreation is located in the John C. Wood Municipal Complex, 3730 Old Lee Highway; **703-385-7858**.

See also: Chocolate Lovers Festival; Concerts; Fall Festival; Fall for the Book; Festival of Lights and Carols; Holiday Craft Show; Independence Day Celebration; Spotlight on the Arts.



Recycling Service. The city offers curbside recycling with its refuse service. Recyclables are collected on the same day as regular trash pickup. Place the blue recycle bin at the curb by 7 a.m. to ensure collection. Recycling is mandatory in the city. Residents can put the following in their bins:

- newspapers, including glossy inserts (bound or bagged)
- magazines and catalogs
- aluminum and metal beverage and food cans
- glass containers (clear, green or brown)
- plastic beverage containers (with narrow necks)

Cardboard, flattened and bound into 3x3-foot packages, should be set next to the bin.

In February, phone books are collected from the curb (please place next to the recycling bin). Phone books are collected year-round at the city's Recycling Center at the Property Yard.

The city contracts with a private contractor for its curbside recycling service.

Bins are property of the city and should be left at the home when residents move from the property. Residents who need recycle bins should call **703-385-7995**. Residents should write their address on their bins.

All residents may take their recyclables to the Property Yard on Pickett Road, which has a 24-hour drop-off center for:

- aluminum and metal cans
- antifreeze (6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays only)
- automobile batteries
- cardboard
- catalogs and magazines
- glass containers (clear, green or brown)
- newspapers (including glossy inserts)
- "white" paper, mail and envelopes
- phone books
- plastic beverage containers (with narrow necks)
- motor oil and filters (6:30 a.m. to

3:30 p.m. weekdays only)

Aluminum cans also are collected at Fire Station 3 and Fire Station 33 as part of the Aluminum Cans for Burned Children program. Proceeds from the sale of the cans fund the care of child burn victims.

As a health precaution, please make sure all recyclables are clean.

The city collects yard debris from the curb year-round. Place plants and yard debris in bags or in trash cans marked "yard waste" at the curb on regular refuse collection days.

Christmas trees are collected curbside in January. Please remove all decorations, including tinsel and garland. No calls are needed to request this service.

For recycling information, call **703-385-7995**.

The Community Relations Office in City Hall publishes the flyer *How to Dispose of Items in the City*. For a copy, call **703-385-7855**.

See also: Household Hazardous Waste Disposal; Leaf Collection; Mulch; Refuse Service.

Red Light Cameras. *See: Photo Red Light Program.*

Refuse Service. The Public Works Department provides weekly refuse collection at townhouses, duplexes and single-family houses. For information, call **703-385-7995**.

Household refuse, recycling and yard waste are collected weekly on a single weekday.

Collection is not provided on Thanksgiving Day or Christmas Day, and the holiday trash schedule is announced in *The Cityscene*, on Cityscreen-12 and on the city's web site.

The city collects the following refuse from the curb:

- household trash
- tires
- furniture
- recyclables
- yard waste
- brush, tree stumps and oversized yard debris
- non-treated lumber
- appliances (remove doors for safety)
- metal objects
- building materials, debris and treated lumber
- concrete, asphalt, shingles, dry-wall
- dirt (one load only; request by calling **703-385-7995** before putting dirt at curb to arrange for collection)

Please keep like items separated

by type at the curb.

The Community Relations Office publishes the flyer *How to Dispose of Items in the City*. For a copy, call **703-385-7855** or visit the city's web site.

Waste materials must be packaged in metal or plastic containers with handles and tight-fitting covers. Trash containers should be no larger than 35 gallons. Plastic bags are acceptable. No container may exceed 60 pounds or be taller than five feet.

Trash should be placed at the curb no earlier than dusk the day before pickup. Large items (such as lumber, brush, building materials, etc.) may be placed at the curb the weekend before collection.

Refuse as a result of work performed by a contractor is not collected by the city.

Adopt-A-Truck — Residents may use ("adopt") a truck to dispose of home repair debris from do-it-yourself projects. Trucks are parked and locked at the requested location Friday afternoon and picked up Monday morning. A limited number of trucks are available for this popular service, so reserve a truck early by calling **703-385-7995**.

Disposal options — Residents may take refuse to the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road. The station is open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays. There is a disposal fee. For information, call **703-631-1179**.

Household hazardous waste — Residents must take household hazardous waste, such as insecticides, paint and household cleaners, to the Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Site, 4618 West Ox Road. This site is open 1-5 p.m. Thursdays, 8 a.m. to noon Fridays and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. For information, call **703-324-5068**.

See also: Recycling Service.

Rent Relief. *See: Disability Services; Real Estate Assessments, Taxes; Senior Citizens.*

Rental Occupancy Permits. The city requires homeowners to obtain rental occupancy permits and business licenses when they rent out their single-family home, duplex, townhouse or condominium.

Rental occupancy permits are issued by the Code Administration Office in City Hall; **703-385-7830**.

When issuing a rental permit, the city will inspect the rental property to ensure it is safe and sanitary. Inspections will be performed when the

Notes

residence is first rented, preferably prior to its occupancy by tenants. Subsequent inspections will take place when a new tenant moves in, or at least every five years.

Whereas rental permits are required only if the house is leased in its entirety, business licenses are required of all homeowners who lease any portion of their residences. For a business license, call the Commissioner of the Revenue at **703-385-7880**.

For landlord/tenant issues, call the Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs at **(800) 552-9963**; www.vdacs.state.va.us/consumers.

Residential Use Permits. To protect the nature of residential neighborhoods, the city requires residents with home-based businesses to obtain a residential use permit. The business type and its scope determine if a major home occupancy permit or minor home occupancy permit is required. To qualify for either, business owners must live in the dwelling during non-business hours and must have a business license. Business must be conducted within the confines of the residence. Telecommuters are exempt. For information, call the Zoning Office at **703-385-7820**.

Right-of-Way Permits. Right-of-way/easement, street repairs, connections, wet taps and other street openings require special permits; call **703-385-7980**.

See also: Special Use Permits.

S

Safety Inspections. Residents may request a safety inspection or fire safety inspection of their homes. These inspections are offered free of charge. For information, call the Fire Department at **703-385-7940** or the City of Fairfax Police Department at **703-385-7946**.

School Board. The City of Fairfax has an elected School Board. Citizens elect five School Board members to a 2-year term. Elections are held in May in even-numbered years. A student representative from Fairfax High School also serves on the board.

The superintendent of schools, who is appointed by the School Board, is the board's chief executive officer.

The elected School Board executes the school tuition contract,

implements the annual operating budget and develops the school facility improvement program.

The board holds meetings on the first Monday of each month in City Hall, and the meetings are televised live on Cityscreen-12. School Board work sessions are scheduled as needed (usually on the third Monday of the month). Residents are invited to attend all School Board meetings and work sessions. For information, contact the Superintendent of Schools Office in the Sisson House adjacent to City Hall; **703-385-7910**.

See also: Schools.

Schools. By contractual agreement, the Fairfax County Public School System (www.fcps.edu) operates city schools and provides educational services for city students. The city pays for these services according to a cost formula agreed to in the tuition contract.

The school buildings are owned by the city and city funds are used to improve, construct or renovate buildings.

The School Board, with the assistance of the superintendent of schools, oversees school-related issues.

Virginia law requires that children who have reached their fifth birthday on or before September 30 be enrolled in kindergarten for that school year beginning in the fall unless their parents or guardians notify the principal of the local school that they do not wish the child to attend. However, children who will be six years old on or before September 30 must attend school during the school year beginning that fall.

Qualifying parents may elect to provide home instruction for their school-age children in lieu of school attendance; call **703-876-5233**.

When enrolling a child in public school, parents should take a birth certificate, social security number and proof of residency or equivalent and a transfer slip or report card from the previous school to the new school office. Evidence of immunization and a certificate of physical examination are required for elementary students. For more information call Central Student Registration at 703-876-5219.

To find out in which school to enroll a child, call **703-246-2111**.

The city has four schools:

- Daniels Run Elementary School
3705 Old Lee Highway
703-279-8400

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- Providence Elementary School
3616 Jermantown Road
703-460-4400
- Sidney Lanier Middle School
3710 Bevan Drive
703-934-2400
- Fairfax High School
3500 Old Lee Highway
703-219-2200

Three parochial schools also are located in the city:

- Trinity Christian School (1-12)
703-273-8787
- St. Leo Catholic School (K-8)
703-273-1211
- Paul VI High School (9-12)
703-352-0925

The New School of Northern Virginia (9431 Silver King Court; 703-691-3040) offers private school services for grades K-12.

Community groups may reserve use of classrooms, the auditorium and the cafeterias at city schools by calling each school.

To schedule use of Fairfax High School facilities, contact the school's community activities director at **703-219-2230**.

See also: School Board.

Security Alarm Ordinance. Every City of Fairfax business protected by a security alarm system must obtain a permit to operate it. The city imposes a progressive service charge for false alarms to which police officers respond. Residences protected by security systems do not need a permit but are subject to the false-alarm service charge. For information, call the City of Fairfax Police Department at **703-385-7922**.

Applications for a security alarm permit can be obtained from the Treasurer's Office; **703-385-7900**.

Senior Citizens. A variety of programs are available for senior citizens in this area. Most services apply to people age 60 and older, but eligibility varies. Programs include adult education classes, employment services, recreation centers (some with low-cost lunches), Meals-on-Wheels, legal and paralegal services, special library facilities, Medicare and Medicaid help and volunteer opportunities. A pamphlet, *Services for Older Adults in the Fairfax Area*, is available from the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 708, Fair-

fax, VA 22035; **703-324-5411**; www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Area seniors are welcome to participate in programs offered at the city's Senior Center at the Green Acres Center, 4401 Sideburn Road. For information, call the city Parks and Recreation Department at **703-359-2487**.

The Learning in Retirement Institute (LRI) at George Mason University provides opportunities for seniors to explore intellectual and cultural subjects and to share their experience and talents. LRI offers classes, forums and other special events and social activities year-round. For information, call **703-503-3384**.

Seniors may wish to volunteer for "Seniors in Action," a program that matches seniors with volunteer programs based on the individual's interests and skills; call **703-324-5407**.

Suspected abuse, financial exploitation or neglect of elderly people should be reported to Adult Protective Services. For information, call **703-324-7450**.

People age 60 and older may ride the city's CUE Bus for a reduced fare. Seniors must have CUE Bus passes issued by the Transportation Office; call **703-385-7889**.

Real estate tax and rental relief benefits also are available to eligible senior citizens and permanently disabled city residents. Seniors must be 65 years old or older. For information, call **703-385-7870**.

The City of Fairfax participates in the federally funded Community Development Block Grant Program, which offers the Home Improvement Loan Program and the Home Repair Program for the Elderly; call **703-385-7930**.

The Fairfax Area Agency on Aging has information on senior housing and retirement communities in the area; call **703-324-5411**.

See also: Attorneys; Assisted Living Residences; CityWheels; Disability Services; Hospitals, Health Facilities; Housing Assistance Programs.

Sewer. The city is responsible for operation and maintenance of the sewage collection system in the city. The city contracts with Fairfax County for sewage treatment. The city purchases 4.2 million gallons per day of sewer capacity for city-generated sewage from the Norman M. Cole, Jr. Pollution Control Plant near Lorton.

Sewer service charges for water and sewer customers are calculated based on the amount of water used during each regular billing period;

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fees are collected as part of the utility bill. For more information, or if you have questions about your bill, contact the Utilities Department at **703-385-7915**.

In case of emergency, call **703-385-7920** from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. On weekends and holidays, as well as after 5 p.m. on weekdays, call **703-385-7924** (TTY: **703-359-2480**).

Shelters. Temporary emergency shelter may be available for city residents at a number of locations, including the Bailey's Community Shelter (**703-820-7621**), Embury Rucker Shelter (**703-437-1975**), Eleanor Kennedy Shelter (**703-799-0200**) or the Women's Shelter (**703-435-4940**).

Families seeking shelter should contact the Fairfax County Department of Family Services at **703-222-0880**.

Alternative House offers shelter to youths and runaways; **703-356-6360**.

See also: Domestic Violence Assistance; Housing Assistance; Human Services; Social Services; Women's Programs.

Sheriff. The city shares a sheriff with Fairfax County and other local communities. The sheriff is an elected official who has criminal and civil jurisdiction in the city and surrounding jurisdictions. The sheriff, elected to a 4-year term, is responsible for securing the city's General District Court, County Adult Detention Center and County Pre-Release Center, serving civil processes, and security of the Judicial Center and various county courts. The Sheriff's Office has more than 400 uniformed deputies and civilian employees. The office is located in the Judicial Center at 4110 Chain Bridge Road; **703-246-3227**.

Signs. The location and size of all signs, including temporary banners, real estate and construction and yard sale signs, are governed by the city's zoning ordinance. In many cases, permits are required.

Signs in the Old Town Historic District and transitional overlay districts require the additional approval of the Board of Architectural Review.

For information, call the Zoning Office at **703-385-7820**.

Site Plans. Any site work in commercial, industrial or planned development districts requires an approved site plan. For information, call the

Zoning Office at **703-385-7820**.

Small Claims Court. City residents file small claims cases with the Fairfax County General District Court, 4110 Chain Bridge Road; **703-691-7320**, then press 4, 2; www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

See also: Courts.

Smoke Detectors. The City of Fairfax Fire Department provides free smoke detectors and batteries to city residents upon request. For information, call **703-385-7940**.

See also: Fire Department.

Snow Removal. The city maintains its own streets and therefore is among the few area jurisdictions to do all its own plowing. Crews first salt and sand snow emergency routes, then side streets.

The city's snow emergency ordinance authorizes the city manager to declare a snow emergency that decrees that routes must be kept clear for emergency vehicles and snow plows.

All vehicles stranded or stalled on snow emergency routes will be ticketed and towed. These routes are Jermantown Road, Route 123, Route 236, Old Lee Highway, Pickett Road and Route 29 and Route 50.

Property owners are responsible for removing snow from their own driveways and sidewalks. Pile snow to the right-hand side of the driveway (as you face the street) so city trucks can push it away from residences. It is against the law to push snow onto city streets. For information during inclement weather, call **703-385-7980**.

The most up-to-date information about city government closings and other snow-related news is provided on **703-273-1776**, on the city's web site or on Cityscreen-12. The Community Relations Office also supplies news to radio and television stations.

See also: Street Maintenance.

Social Security. Social Security is administered by the federal government. The nearest office is located at 11212 Waples Mill Road, Suite 105, Fairfax, VA 22030; **(800) 772-1213**; www.ssa.gov.

Social Services. Many financial aid, supportive and rehabilitative services are available to eligible city residents under contract with the Fairfax County Department of Family Services (www.fairfaxcounty.gov).

Programs include Medicaid, food

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stamps, Temporary Aid to Needy Families, adult and child protective services, prevention and employment training services. The department is located at 12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 500, Fairfax, VA 22035; **703-324-7500**.

Soil Analysis. *See: Extension Services.*

Soliciting. *See: Peddling, Canvassing and Soliciting.*

Special Events. *See: Chocolate Lovers Festival; Concerts; Fairfax Civil War Weekend; Fall Festival; Fall for the Book; Festival of Lights and Carols; Holiday Craft Show; Independence Day Celebration; Old Town Hall Lecture Series; Spotlight on the Arts.*

Special Use Permits. The city's zoning ordinance specifies particular purposes for which land can be used in each zoning category. Some uses are by right, but others — such as dancing, amusement machines, nursery schools, commercial, recreation, automobile sales and repair and home occupations — are designated "special permit" uses. Depending on the use, these permits require a public hearing before the Board of Zoning Appeals or the City Council. For information, or to obtain an application, call the Zoning Office in City Hall at **703-385-7820**.

See also: Home Occupancy Permits.

Sports Groups.
See: Athletic Groups; Children.



Spotlight on the Arts.
Held from mid-April to early May each year, Spotlight on the Arts (www.fairfaxspotlight.org) features weeks of art exhibits, plays, dance and choral, jazz and classical concerts.

Spotlight on the Arts, sponsored by the city in cooperation with George Mason University, takes place at several city and university locations. For information, call **703-352-ARTS**.

Sticker, City. *See: Automobiles.*

Storm Drainage. The Department of Public Works maintains the city's storm drainage system. To report clogged drains or creeks, call **703-385-7979**.

Street Lights. To report prob-

lems with street lights, call Dominion Virginia Power at **(888) 667-3000**. To request new installation, call **703-246-6330**.

Street Maintenance. The city is responsible for maintaining 69 miles of local and arterial roads. In addition, the city maintains all its traffic lights, streets and highways, curbs, gutters and sidewalks. The Public Works Department is responsible for patching pavement, snow removal and road resurfacing of the more than 70 miles of primary highways, secondary and residential streets in the city. Private streets, however, are maintained by individual homeowner associations. For information, call **703-385-7980**.

Substance Abuse. Alcohol and Drug Services (ADS) provides comprehensive alcohol and drug treatment services for residents of the city. ADS, an agency of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, offers outpatient, residential, family, court-related and other special programs.

Outpatient services are offered at four locations, including the City of Fairfax. These services — which vary in length, type and intensity — include information/referral, consultation, detox, assessment/evaluation, substance abuse education, individual and group counseling, extended treatment and case management. Specialized programs are available for adolescents, young adults, women and Hispanics.

For information about ADS services, call **703-359-7040** or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Summer Concert Series. *See: Concerts.*

Summer Recreation Program.
See: Recreation Programs.

T

Taxes. The City Treasurer collects all taxes and revenues due to the city and state. The Commissioner of the Revenue determines the taxable value of personal property such as cars, trailers and boats and administers all taxing and licensing laws of the city and state. The Real Estate Assessments Office calculates the value of real estate in the city. The offices are located in City Hall.

More than half of the city's gen-

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eral fund revenue is provided through direct city taxes, the largest of which is the real estate tax, based on the market value of land and buildings. The city also taxes tangible personal property, utility bills, cigarettes, hotel-motel occupancy and business licenses. Also, the city collects a tax on meals sold by city restaurants.

City residents do not pay taxes to any other local government.

Real estate tax relief benefits are available through the Department of Finance in City Hall to eligible senior citizens and to permanently disabled city residents. Applications are available from late January until mid-April. For information, call **703-385-7870**.

See also: Business Property Tax; Cigarette Tax; Gasoline Tax; Income Tax, State and Federal; Personal Property Tax; Real Estate Assessments; Taxes; Utility Tax.

Tax Exemption Programs. *See: Businesses; Home Improvement Programs and Services.*

Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf Services (TTY). The city government has the following TTY numbers:

- Community Relations Office: **703-293-7120**
- Human Services Office: **703-385-7894**
- Parks and Recreation: **703-273-0840**
- City of Fairfax Police Department: **703-359-2480** (emergency and non-emergency)
- CUE Bus/ Transportation Office: **703-385-7859**

For fire and medical emergencies, 911 services both voice and TTY calls.

By dialing **711**, the Virginia Relay Center enables 24-hour communication between those with and without TTY machines.

Tourism Information. The Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily (except for major holidays).

The center offers information about lodging, restaurants, transportation, historic and natural attractions and special events. The gift shop stocks history books, art prints and souvenirs related to Fairfax and Virginia history. For information, call **703-385-8414**.

The Economic Development Office also offers lodging and restaurant information from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays; **703-385-7862**.

See also: Economic Development; Museum.

Traffic Signals. The city maintains 57 signalized intersections. Technicians are on-call at all times to correct malfunctioning signals. To report a malfunctioning signal, call **703-385-7987**. On evenings, weekends and holidays, call the Police Department at **703-385-7924**.

Traffic Signs. To report missing or damaged signs, call **703-385-7980**. To request new traffic signs, call **703-385-7810**.

Transportation. The Transportation Division of the Department of Public Works is primarily responsible for implementing city transportation plans and overseeing city transportation programs like the CUE Bus system and CityWheels.

The Transportation Division works closely with other jurisdictions and regional transportation organizations, including the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board and the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission. For information, call **703-385-7889**.

See also: CityWheels; CUE Bus System; Metro.

Trash. *See: Recycling Service; Refuse Service.*

Treasurer. The Treasurer's Office collects taxes and local fees and makes payments on behalf of the city for all approved expenditures.

The independent status of the Treasurer as an elected official provides that local funds will be collected, invested and accounted for by an individual who reports directly to the people.

The Treasurer's Office in City Hall is responsible for the collection, accounting and management of all forms of revenue. The office sells vehicle decals and collects fees for permits, water and sewer charges and state and estimated income taxes. The Treasurer also manages the investment of city funds and maintains records of local finances. For information, call **703-385-7900**.

The Treasurer is elected to a 4-year term on odd-numbered years.

Tree Planting. The city encourages tree planting, partly through the residential tree-planting program. In this program, citizens and commu-

nity groups may purchase white dogwood or purple-leaf flowering plum trees at wholesale prices from the city, which, for no extra cost, will plant the trees in city rights-of-way. To participate, contact your civic association or call the city at **703-385-7995**.

See also: Arborist, Extension Services.

Tree Removal. Before any tree with a trunk diameter of five inches or larger in the city on any lot larger than a half-acre can be removed from private property, a permit must be obtained from the Zoning Office; call **703-385-7820**.

Tree removal on private property is the responsibility of the property owner.

If a tree falls in the city's right-of-way and creates an emergency situation — for example, the fallen tree causes injury, knocks down a power line, obstructs traffic or poses a danger to motorists or pedestrians — call **911** immediately.

If a tree falls in the city's right-of-way and poses no immediate danger or is not blocking the road, call the Street Division at **703-385-7980** (after-hours: **703-385-7924**).

If a tree falls in parkland, call the Department of Parks and Recreation at **703-385-7858**.

If a tree on either public or private property causes damage, owners of the damaged items are liable for their repair.

U

Unemployment. To apply for unemployment insurance, contact the Virginia Employment Commission (www.vec.state.va.us). In addition to administering the unemployment insurance program, the commission offers free job placement, counseling and special job programs. There is one local office to serve city residents: 13135 Lee-Jackson Highway, Suite 340; **703-803-0000**.

Utilities. These companies supply utility service to residents:

- Cox Communication, Inc.
(www.cox.com/fairfax)
703-378-8400
- Dominion Virginia Power
(www.dom.com)
(888) 667-3000
- Verizon Telephone
(www.verizon.com)
New Service: **703-954-6222**
Repair (lines): **(800) 275-2355**

- Washington Gas
(www.washgas.com)
703-750-1000
- City of Fairfax Water and Sewer Service
(www.fairfaxva.gov)
703-385-7915

To locate city water lines and other underground utilities, contact Miss Utility (www.missutility.net) at least 48 hours in advance of digging by calling **(800) 552-7001**.

Utility Tax. The utility tax rate is 15 percent of the total amount of the monthly utility bill. A maximum tax of \$15 per month per utility is charged for residential users. A maximum tax of \$500 per month per utility is charged for commercial users.

Additionally, the city levies a tax of 88¢ per line per month for emergency telephone service.

See also: Taxes.

V

Vehicle Information. *See: Automobiles.*

Victim/Witness Services. Victims of crimes or witnesses of such events may require special services available from Victim/Witness Services; call **703-246-2141**. Information also is available from the City of Fairfax Police Department; call **703-385-7924**.

See also: Children; Hotlines; Senior Citizens; Women's Programs.

Visitor Center. *See: Museum.*

Visitor Information. *See: Tourism Information.*

Volunteers. There are many opportunities to volunteer for the city government. The Community Relations Office maintains a list of volunteer organizations that offer opportunities for citizens to become involved in city affairs. For information, call **703-385-7855**.

Volunteer Fairfax, 10530 Page Avenue, provides a volunteer referral service and other programs. For information, call **703-246-3460** or visit www.volunteerfairfax.org.

Volunteer opportunities also are available from the Virginia Office of Volunteerism; call **(866) 239-4868** or visit www.virginiacorps.org.

To join the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department (fairfaxfd.com), call **703-385-7877**.

Voter Registration. To vote in

city, state and national elections, citizens must register and must be a United States citizen, 18 years old by the time of the next November general election, and a resident of Virginia and the precinct in which they vote.

Once registered, a resident may vote in primaries, special elections and referendums.

To register, a social security number is required. In Virginia, voters do not specify party affiliation. Military personnel and their spouses may register by mail using Form 76 furnished by a voting officer or the city registrar. Residents moving from one of the city's six precincts to another must notify the registrar by mail or in person at least 29 days prior to an election.

The city provides registered voters with cards that list the voter's polling location and districts for state and federal representatives.

City residents may register to vote at the General Registrar's Office in the Sisson House next to City Hall, 10455 Armstrong Street, from 8:30 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Citizens also may mail in their voter registration forms. Voter registration forms are available at:

- City Hall (10455 Armstrong Street): In the second floor lobby all open hours.
- Fairfax City Regional Library (3915 Chain Bridge Road): All open hours.
- Fairfax High School (3500 Old Lee Highway): At the main office during open hours.
- John C. Wood Municipal Complex (3730 Old Lee Highway): In the main hall 24 hours a day.
- U.S. Post Offices (3951 Chain Bridge Road, 3601 Pickett Road): In the outer lobby 24 hours a day.

Registration closes 28 days before regular elections or primary elections and six days prior to any special election.

Groups may organize a registration drive in conjunction with the General Registrar's office; be sure to submit the request in writing three days before the desired date.

W

Water. The city owns and operates its own water supply system, a 200-million-gallon raw water reservoir and water treatment plant on Goose Creek in Loudoun County. In the event of a drought, additional

capacity is provided by a 1.3 billion gallon side storage reservoir on Beaverdam Creek.

Once water is treated and ready to send to customers, it is conveyed to the city by a 25-mile transmission line that also serves parts of eastern Loudoun County and parts of Fairfax County. The city's water system also is interconnected with surrounding jurisdictions.

To request water service, new residents should contact the water billing clerk at **703-385-7915**. There is a \$30 charge for this initiation service and a \$35 deposit, the latter of which is applied with interest to the final bill on the account. For information, call 703-385-7920.

The Treasurer's Office in City Hall collects payments for water and sewer services; for information, call **703-385-7900**.

To report a water emergency, call **703-385-7920** during normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays). After 5 p.m., or on weekends and holidays, report water emergencies by calling **703-385-7924** (TTY: **703-359-2480**).

Web Site. The city has a World Wide Web site (www.fairfaxva.gov) with information about the city and links to community resources.

The site offers information such as CUE Bus schedules, concerts and special events information, news releases, City Council agendas and a comprehensive list of e-mail addresses for city government workers and elected officials.

Additionally, many city services are provided online. Citizens may pay taxes, register vehicles for personal property taxes, peruse real estate records, read the City Code and more. The site provides links to other sites of importance to citizens.

The site continues to evolve as new information is added. For information, call **703-385-7895**.

See also: Information Technology.

Weed Violations. *See: Overgrown Lots / Vegetation.*

Willard Health Center. *See: Health Department, Health Services.*

Wills and Estate Administration Information. The Fairfax County Probate Office is located at the Fairfax County Judicial Center, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Room 328. To ensure quality assistance, appointments are made to meet with a probate officer. To make an appoint-

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ment, call **703-691-7320**, then press 3, 6, 3.

A brochure is available at the Probate Office or on the web at www.fairfaxcounty.gov. To request a brochure by mail, send a written request and a self-addressed 6x9 envelope complete with first-class postage addressed to Fairfax County Circuit Court, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030, Attention Probate Division.

Women's Programs. The Commission for Women acts as an advocate for women in the City of Fairfax and conducts educational programs of interest to women. For information, call the Human Services Office in City Hall at 703-385-7894.

Temporary emergency shelter for battered women and their children is available at the Women's Shelter; **703-435-4940** (24 hours a day). Counseling also is provided.

Counseling, emergency assistance and advocacy for women who are victims of sexual assault or spouse abuse are provided by the Victim Assistance Network at **703-360-7273** (24 hours a day).

The Women's Center, 133 Park Street, N.E., Vienna, is a private non-profit organization that offers a wide range of programs and services, from counseling and lawyer referrals to seminars on money management and coping with stress. For information, call **703-281-2657** or visit www.thewomenscenter.org.

Wood Municipal Complex. Named for Mayor John C. Wood, the first mayor of the City of Fairfax, the John C. Wood Municipal Complex facility at 3730 Old Lee Highway houses the City of Fairfax Police Department and the Department of Parks and Recreation, as well as community meeting rooms.

The center has six rooms available for community use. Space may be reserved on an annual basis, although no room may be reserved for the exclusive use of any group.

For information or to schedule use of this facility, call **703-385-7858**.

Work Permits. Work permits are required for students younger than age 16 and may be obtained at the student's high school. While there is no fee, students must have a physical examination before the permit is issued.

Students under age 16 must be accompanied by a parent when applying. For more information, and

the application forms, contact Fairfax High School, 3500 Old Lee Highway; **703-219-2200**. The office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

World Wide Web. *See: Web Site.*

X

Y

Youth Groups. *See: Children.*

Z

Zoning. *See: Community Development and Planning.*

Zoning Map Amendments. Applications to change a property's zoning require a public hearing before the Planning Commission and City Council. The City Council must give final approval.

Zoning ordinance information is available from the Department of Community Development and Planning; call **703-385-7820**.

Zoning maps are available from the Department of Public Works; call **703-385-7817**.

Zip Codes. The City of Fairfax does not have an exclusive zip code. The three zip codes in the city are 22030, 22031 and 22032, all of which are shared with Fairfax County.

For information, call **(800) 275-8777** press 1, 3, 2 or visit www.usps.gov.

Notes

Elected Officials

City Elected Officials

Mayor and City Council (2004 - 2006)

Mayor

Robert F. Lederer
3511 Winston Place
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-591-8217
rlederer@fairfaxva.gov

Councilmembers

Joan W. Cross
3856 University Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-278-8031
jcross@fairfaxva.gov

Jeffrey C. Greenfield
3584 Sharpes Meadow Lane
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-385-7800
jgreenfield@fairfaxva.gov

Gail C. Lyon
10408 Towlston Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-385-7800
glyon@fairfaxva.gov

Gary J. Rasmussen
3210 Armory Court
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-385-2991
grasmussen@fairfaxva.gov

R. Scott Silverthorne
10404 Towlston Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-691-0033
silverthorne@fairfaxva.gov

Patrice M. Winter
3502 Old Post Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-385-7800
pwinter@fairfaxva.gov

School Board (2004 - 2006)

Allen C. Griffith
10318 Confederate Lane
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-591-6291
griffith@patriot.net

Julie A. Knight
3805 Keith Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-691-3406
b_jknight@msn.com

Janice Miller, Chair
10525 Providence Way
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-691-1748
jmiller@patriot.net

Courtney Robinson, Vice Chair
3414 Hill Street
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-591-3269
courtneyrobinson001@msn.com

Penelope Rood
3201 Beech Tree Court
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-691-9208
prood@usa.net

Commissioner of the Revenue (2002 - 05)

William Page Johnson II
4141 Orchard Drive
Fairfax, VA 22032
703-273-6130
pjohnson@fairfaxva.gov

Treasurer (2002 - 05)

Stephen L. Moloney
9813 Hampton Lane
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-273-6747
smoloney@fairfaxva.gov

Fairfax County Officials Elected by City Voters

Sheriff (2004-2008)

Stan G. Barry
4110 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-3227 • stanbarry@aol.com

Commonwealth Attorney (2003-2006)

Robert F. Horan, Jr.
4110 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2776

Clerk of the Court (2000-2007)

John T. Frey
Fairfax County Circuit Court
4110 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-246-2770

State Elected Officials

Governor (2002-06)

Mark R. Warner
The Capitol, Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-2211
governor@gov.state.va.us

Lt. Governor (2002-06)

Timothy M. Kaine
900 E. Maine Street
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-2078
ltgov@ltgov.state.va.us

Attorney General (2002-06)

Jerry W. Kilgore
101 North 8th Street
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-2071
mail@oag.state.va.us

Senator, 34th District (2004-08)

Jeannemarie Devolites
P.O. Box 936
Vienna, VA 22183
703-938-7972
(804) 698-1035
jdevolites@aol.com

Delegate, 37th District (2004-06)

J. Chapman Petersen
P.O. Box 887
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-591-5133
(804) 698-1037
del_petersen@house.state.va.us

Mailing addresses during session for state senators and delegates is: General Assembly Building, Richmond, VA 23219

Federal Elected Officials

President (2001-2004)

George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500
202-456-1414
president@whitehouse.gov

Vice President (2001-2004)

Richard Cheney
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500
202-456-1414
vice.president@whitehouse.gov

U.S. Senator (2003-08)

John W. Warner
225 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-2023
senator@warner.senate.gov

U.S. Senator (2001-2006)

George Allen
204 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-4024
senator_allen@allen.senate.gov

House of Representatives, 11th District (2003-2004)

Thomas M. Davis III
2348 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-1492
tom.davis@mail.house.gov

Annual Events in the City of Fairfax

Notes

Month	Event Name	General Description
February	Chocolate Lovers Festival	Festival featuring chocolate in its many forms: edible, artistic, etc. (703-591-2450)
April	Spring Cleanup Month	Public and private outdoor cleaning (703-385-7995)
Late April through mid-May	Spotlight on the Arts	Visual and performing arts activities featuring local artists and emerging cultural groups (703-352-ARTS)
May-October	Farmers Market	Home-grown produce, home-baked goods, plants, crafts (Tuesdays: 703-385-7862 ; Saturdays: 703-430-6164)
May	Fairfax Civil War Weekend	Events highlighting and celebrating Fairfax history including Civil War encampment and Civil War-era activities (703-385-8414)
June	National Trails Day	Celebrates National Trails Day with walks on city trails (703-385-7858)
June - July Thursday evenings	Summer Concert Series	Free City of Fairfax Band concerts at Veterans Amphitheater at City Hall (703-385-7858)
July 4	Independence Day activities	Patriotic parade with bands, floats, Fire Department activities, tours of historic buildings, Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center open house, evening entertainment, fireworks (703-385-7858)
August	National Night Out	Safety officials visit neighborhoods to introduce safety workers, demonstrate and display safety equipment (703-385-7960)
September	Family Fun Fest	Family events, concert, picnic, outdoor movie at Van Dyck Park (703-385-7858)
September	Fall for the Book	Festival supporting literature and literacy, featuring readings and other similar events (703-993-3986)
October (second Saturday)	Fall Festival	Day-long outdoor fair with arts & crafts vendors, entertainment and food in downtown Fairfax (703-385-7858)
October - April	Old Town Hall Performance Series	Free musical concerts and art performances (703-352-ARTS)
October November February March	Old Town Hall Lecture Series	Free lectures by noted George Mason University professors, alumni, with reception at Old Town Hall (703-993-8846)
November (third weekend)	Holiday Craft Show	2-day craft fair with art & crafts vendors, food, at Fairfax High School (703-385-7858)
December	Festival of Lights & Carols	Children's activities, Yule log, caroling, tree-lighting, refreshments (703-385-7858)
December 31	New Year's Eve Gala	New Year's Eve Party at Old Town Hall benefits Spotlight on the Arts (703-352-ARTS)

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City Government Holidays

City government offices are closed on the following holidays:

- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Inauguration Day
- Washington's Birthday
- Spring Holiday (the Friday before Easter)
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Columbus Day
- Thanksgiving
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve (offices close at noon)
- Christmas Day

Meeting Schedule

First Week of the Month

Monday

School Board, 7:30 p.m.
703-385-7910

Tuesday

Board of Zoning Appeals
7 p.m.
703-385-7820

Wednesday

Board of Architectural Review
7:30 p.m.
703-385-7930

Second Week of the Month

Monday

Planning Commission
7:30 p.m.
703-385-7930

Tuesday

City Council meeting and work session
7 p.m.
703-385-7935

Wednesday

Historic Fairfax City, Inc.
7:30 p.m.
703-385-8415

Thursday

Spotlight on the Arts
7:30 p.m.
703-385-7858

Park and Recreation Advisory Board
7 p.m.
703-385-7858

Third Week of the Month

Monday

School Board work session
7:30 p.m.
703-385-7910

Tuesday

Commission for Women
7 p.m.
703-385-7894

Commission on the Arts
7:30 p.m.
703-385-7858

Wednesday

Board of Architectural Review
7:30 p.m.
703-385-7930

Thursday

Independence Day Celebration
Committee
7:30 p.m.
703-385-7858
(except July, August and December)

Fourth Week of the Month

Monday

Planning Commission
7:30 p.m.
703-385-7930

Tuesday

City Council meeting and work session
7 p.m.
703-385-7935

Wednesday

Community Appearance Committee
7:30 p.m.
703-385-7995

Notes

City of Fairfax Statistical Profile

Demographics

Population (2002 estimate)	22,500
Households (2001 estimate)	8,437
Average household size (2000 Census)	2.61 persons
Registered voters (2003)	13,716
Public school membership (2002)	2,751
Unemployment rate (2002)	1.6 percent
Median household income (2003)	\$73,198
Per capita personal income (2003)	\$31,247

Housing/Infrastructure

Housing (2003)		
<i>Type of housing unit</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Average Assessed Value</i>
single family detached	4,721	\$322,877
single family attached	158	\$491,527
duplex/duet	270	\$182,309
townhouses	910	\$304,862
multi-family units	906	\$115,267
Number of rental apartment units	1,433	
Percent of renter-occupied housing	27 percent	
City land area (square miles)	6.34	
Arterial roads	16 miles	
Collector/local roads	53 miles	
Sewer line	92 miles	
Water lines	175 miles	

Financial

Total assessed value of real property (excluding exemptions)	
1999	\$2.02 billion
2000	\$2.15 billion
2001	\$2.48 billion
2002	\$2.85 billion
2003	\$3.31 billion
Tax rates (2003)	
Real property	92¢ per \$100 of assessed value
Personal property	\$3.29 per \$100 of assessed value

Quick Reference Numbers

(All numbers are area code 703 unless otherwise noted.)

Emergency

Fire and medical	911
Police	591-5511
TTY	359-2480
Poison Control Center	800-222-1222
Water	
Business hours	385-7920
TTY	359-2480
After hours	385-7924
TTY	(TTY) 359-2480

TTY Service

Virginia Relay Center	(voice/TTY) 711
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City Offices

City Clerk's Office	385-7935
City Manager's Office	385-7850
Code Administration	385-7830
Commissioner of the Revenue	385-7880
Community Relations	385-7855
TTY	293-7120
Fire (non-emergency)	385-7940
Human Services	(voice/TTY) 385-7894
Police (non-emergency)	385-7924
TTY	359-2480
Public Works	385-7810
Transportation	385-7889
Treasurer	385-7900
Utilities	385-7920
Voter Registration	385-7890

Frequently Used Services

Animal Control	385-7924
Birth certificates	(804) 662-6200
Building inspections, permits	385-7830
City General District Court	385-7866
CUE Bus	385-7859
Death certificates	(804) 662-6200
Divorce information	691-7320
Dog licenses	385-7900
Health Department	246-7100
TTY	246-7120
Historic Resources	273-5452
Job Line (city government)	385-7861
Marriage licenses	691-7320

Notary services (in City Hall)	293-7120
Parks and Recreation	385-7858
TTY	273-0840
Recycling information	385-7995
Schools	385-7910
Tax rate information	385-7880
Tax payments	385-7900
Trash/refuse collection	385-7995
Vehicle decals	385-7880
Voter registration	385-7890

Hotlines - 24 hours

Adult Protective Services	324-7450
Child Protective Services	324-7400
CrisisLink	527-4077
Decal Violation Hotline	385-7800
Rape Crisis Hotline	360-7273
Victim Assistance Network	360-7273
Women's Shelter	435-4940
Woodburn Mental Health Emergency Line	573-5679

Utilities

Cox Communications (cable)	378-8400
Dominion Virginia Power (electricity)	(888) 667-3000
Miss Utility	(800) 552-7001
Verizon Telephone	
new service	954-6222
repair (lines)	(800) 275-2355
Washington Gas	750-1000
Water and sewer service	385-7915

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General Information

Department of Motor Vehicles	(800) 435-5137
Fairfax City Regional Library	293-6227
Virginia Room	293-6838
Fairfax County government (main)	324-3185
Post Offices	
Main Street	(800) 275-8777
Turnpike	(800) 275-8777
School enrollment	876-5219
Time	844-2424
Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs	(800) 552-9963
Weather	936-1212
ZIP Code information	(800) 275-8777

Notes